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GPU NEWS

December 1977

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IN THIS ISSUE

VOLUME 7, NUMBER 3

NEWS 4
FEEDBACK 8
ARTICLE: The Florida Citrus Boycott by Michael Mitchell 9
ARTICLE: More Thoughts on the Boycott by Lee C. Rice 13
ESSAY–REVIEW: Undoing Sex Stereotypes by Marcia Guttentag and Helen Bray. Reviewed by Wayne Jefferson 17
ARTICLE: Reading Writing by Peter Pehrson 21
REVIEW: Danseur: The Male in Ballet by Richard Philp and Mary Whitney. Review and Layout by Alyn Hess. 24
FICTION: Mother's Day by Daniel Curzon 29
HERE AND THERE 33
REVIEW: Homosexual Bibliography: Supplement, 1970–1975 by William Parker 39
REVIEW: An Idol for Others by Gordon Merrick . . . 40
REVIEW: We Speak for Ourselves: Experiences in Homosexual Counselling by Jack Babuscio 42
OFF THE RECORD: New Records from Olivia 44
REVIEW: The Gay Engagement Calendar Compiled by Martin Gref 45
POETRY: by Lars Lingvall 46
CALENDAR: Photos by Joel 47
DIRECTORY: 49
ADS BY THE INCH 50

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U OF M APPEALS TO SUPREME COURT

Washington, DC—The Supreme Court has for years avoided issues dealing with gays, and now must decide whether to intervene in a dispute between a gay student organization and the University of Missouri.

The student group was originally founded to provide dialog between gay and nongay members of the university community, for the sake of promoting mutual understanding and education. University policy provides that groups are recognized on the basis of their own statement of program and purpose, and that recognition does not constitute endorsement of these. The university committee on student organizations, comprising both faculty and students, recommended recognition of the student organization. Dean Edwin Hutchins overrode the recommendation, and was subsequently supported by President Brice Ratchford.

Last year the gay group went to court with the claim that its free speech rights were being violated by the University of Missouri. The controversy yielded a flurry of contradictory opinions in the lower federal courts, but their final result was a decision which required the University to recognize gay student organizations on both its Columbia and Kansas City campuses.

In its appeal to the Supreme Court, the University argues that formal recognition would bring about on-campus violations of the state sodomy laws and "cause students with latent homosexual tendencies to become overt homosexuals." University officials fear that, if any gay group is approved, students with homosexual tendencies will feel that these are "normal", rather than seeking "proper medical treatment."

The Supreme Court gave tacit approval to state sodomy laws last year by refusing to hear an appeal against a Virginia statute. Its refusal to hear the case in the new appeal, however, would result in the University's being compelled to recognize the student group. In the event that the case is heard by the Court, a decision which will be made after the gay organization has responded to the University's appeal, the issue of state sodomy laws could be reintroduced.

ANITA UPDATE HER CONTRACT RENEWED

Lakeland, Florida—The Citrus Commission has voted unanimously to extend Anita Bryant's contract as spokesperson for Florida orange juice despite recent remarks critical of her by Edward Taylor, executive director of the Florida Citrus Department. The new contract, which retains the same $100,000 salary provision as its predecessor, will expire in August of 1979. Though Commission officials refused to talk to the press, they issued a terse statement which, though it did not endorse Bryant's anti-gay campaign, declared that "she's doing a great job for us."

Taylor later commented that the unanimous vote and the Commission statement were primarily issued for public consumption, and suggested that the Commission has already arranged to produce commercials with other entertainers to replace Bryant's TV spots. Bryant's commercials have already been eliminated on Canadian television, ostensibly because of "Canadian Nationalism."

In the meantime John Devere, chief editor of **Mandate** magazine, sent a letter to Taylor favoring the phase-out of Bryant. "You will immediately gain the respect of right-thinking people," wrote Devere, "by dismissing a woman who is no longer a symbol of wholesome Americana... but is now a symbol of benighted bigotry."



Photo by Bettye Lane

Anita Bryant

Earlier in November Bryant was in New York City to appear on the NBC-TV "Today Show." She left the city under heavy security guard because of alleged threats, though the television interview was taped in advance for later replay. NBC is presently considering requests from NYC gay groups for "equal time" in which to counter Bryant's television remarks.

Slated for its grand opening early in December in North Miami is a new disco named "Hurricane Anita". Bob Kunst, who worked in the Dade County Gay Victory Campaign, is one of the co-owners of the disco, 25% of whose profits will be given to the Gay Victory Campaign. The super-disco is located near Independence Overpass, and it will not serve Florida orange juice or Coors beer

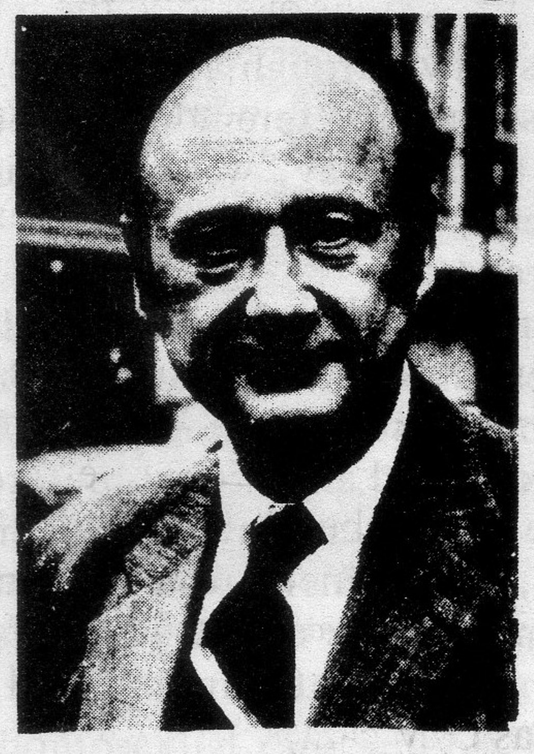
Over 800 persons picketed her "Rally for Decency" held at Indiana State Fair Grounds in Indianapolis. Newspapers in Michigan lamented the fact that she had children hawking her book at a tent rally there, but a state representative authored a bill (now holed up in committee) praising her courage. Other Michigan representatives vow that this resolution will never pass.

KOCH WINS AS NEW YORK MAYOR

New York, NY—U.S. Representative Edward I. Koch defeated Liberal Party challenger Mario Cuomo 712,976 to 587,257 to become New York City's next mayor. Koch, a democrat, was one of the sponsors of the gay rights bill in Congress and has promised to fight for such a bill for New York City. He has further stated that if the city council refuses to pass a gay rights bill, he will issue an executive order protecting the rights of gays who are city employees.

New York gay activists are elated, but still upset by the effort of opponents to "smear" Koch as being gay in the last days of the campaign. Koch, a 49 year old bachelor, met the whispering campaign head-on by asserting on a radio show, "I don't happen to be a homosexual, and if I were, I hope that I wouldn't be ashamed of it."

Intro 554, the city's gay rights bill, has been stalled in the City Council for several years and now may have a better chance of passage, particularly since State Senator Carol Bellamy won the position of President of the City Council in the same election. Bellamy has long been a strong supporter of gay rights.



Edward I. Koch

San Francisco activists are also celebrating the victory of veteran gay activist Harvey Milk in his hotly contested battle for that city's Board of Supervisors. Milk beat 16 others, including the **Advocate** endorsee.

SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE

Special to GPU NEWS

Milwaukee, WI—Nominations are now open for the Jay Garland Memorial Scholarship, awarded semi-annually by the **Gay Peoples Union** Board of Directors. Open to all residents of the metropolitan Milwaukee area enrolled in a school, institute, college, or university, this $75.00 grant will be given to the person who has contributed most significantly to the gay community.

A letter of nomination (or self-nomination) should provide the required education enrollment information and specify the contributions that the nominee has made. These letters must be mailed before Jan. 3, 1978 to Patrick Batt, Chairman, GPU Board, P.O. Box 92203, Milwaukee, 53202. For more information call the GPU Hotline at 414-271-5273.

NEW P OF L OFFICERS

Cedar Rapids, IA—As a result of August elections for **Pride of Lambda, Inc.**, the following officers began their terms in September: Kathy Wilson, Wayne Ruhl (Co-moderators), Larin Long (Secretary), and Carl Garrels (Secretary). Other members elected to the board of P of L include Barb Eyerly, John Arens, Sharon Burrows, Carl Swope, Carol Newman, Fred Brungard, Karen Pederson, Jim Moldenhauer, and Don Greene.

The Halloween Benefit Show held on Oct. 28-29 at the **Side Track Lounge** raised over $900.

P of L is presently sponsoring a series of training sessions for gay counselors with the cooperation of the University of Iowa. The P of L Newsletter, **Lambda Letters**, also entered its third year of publication with the September issue. More information on the organization and its other current projects may be obtained by writing: Pride of Lambda, Inc., Box 265, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406.

EUGENE HAS RIGHTS LAW

Eugene, OR—In early November, the Eugene City Council tentatively approved a measure prohibiting discrimination against homosexuals.

The measure, an amendment to the city's 1969 human rights ordinance, outlaws discrimination in housing, employment, and public accommodations.

George Russel, Council President, said the amendment would provide "a legal recourse for citizens otherwise deprived of their rights" but would not "outlaw prejudices."

The measure was approved 5-3, but city code requires a second vote before it becomes effective.

PHILOSOPHY MEETING

Washington, D.C.—The recently formed **Society for the Philosophy of Sex and Love** will meet on December 28-29 at the Sheraton-Park Hotel in conjunction with the convention of the Eastern Division of **the American Philosophical Association.**

In addition to discussion sessions and business meetings, two formal talks will be given. Dr. Jerome Shaffer (University of Connecticut) will give a paper entitled "Sexual Desire," with commentary by Janice Moulton (Duke University); and Dr. Ellen Shapiro will give a paper entitled "The Epistemological Significance of Homosexuality in Plato", with commentary by Aryeh Kosman (Haverford College).

Persons seeking information concerning the Society should direct their inquiries to: Dr. Alan Soble, Sept. of Philosophy, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX 78712.

IWY CONFERENCE PRO GAY

by Lyn Le Veque and Jamakaya

Houston, TX—The first government funded women's conference, **International Women's Year (IWY)**, has set a new precedent for homosexual rights. The conference, held in Houston, Texas November 17th—21st passed a pro-sexual preference resolution. The resolution stated support for the privacy and parental (custody and visitation) rights of homosexuals. It also called for the repeal of existing laws that prohibit private sexual acts and activities between consenting adults. The "sexual preference" resolution gained the support of the majority of the 1,400 delegates present at **IWY**.

Betty Freidan, founder of the National Organization for Women, spoke in favor of the resolution. Acknowledging past opposition to lesbian rights, Freidan apologized and came out in full support of gay rights. "I believe we must help the lesbians gain protection of their own civil rights and I suggest we waste no further time in debating this issue. . . join with me in voting for the resolution on sexual preference."

Lesbian author and activist, Charlotte Bunch, spoke on the need for the women's movement to recognize their lesbian sisters, because of the threat of being labeled "lesbian" has been often used by opponents of women's rights to divide us. Bunch felt that by openly recognizing and supporting the lesbians, the women's movement need no longer fear that accusation.

Con debate against the resolution was minimal, but an attempt was made to split the resolution into two sections to be voted on seperately. The question of custody and visitation rights would be considered apart from the basic principle of non-discrimination for sexual preference. This was seen as a parliamentary manuever intended to confuse the supporters of the resolution and delay its passage. The majority of delegates saw through this tactic and the sexual preference resolution, after some delay, was passed in its entirety.

It reads:

Congress, State, and local legislatures should enact legislation to eliminate discrimination on the basis of sexual and affectional preference in the areas including, but not limited to, employment, housing, public accomodations, credit, public facilities, government funding and the military.

State legislatures should reform their penal codes or repeal State laws that restrict private sexual behavior between consenting adults.

State legislatures should enact legislation that would prohibit consideration of sexual or affectional orientation as a factor in any judicial determination of child custody or visitation rights. Rather, child custody cases should be evaluated on the merits of which party is the better parent, without regard to that person's sexual and affectional orientation."

The sexual preference resolution and all other resolutions passed at the **IWY** conference on ERA, battered women, reproductive rights, minority women, rape—will be sent to President Carter and the congress as recommendations for action. Continued activism in communities throughout the country is imperative in demanding the government's implimentation of these proposals.

WICHITA PASSES RIGHTS LAW

Wichita, KS—On September 27, the Wichita, Kansas City Commission passed a civil rights ordinance virtually identical to the defeated Dade County measure. The ordinance, which prohibits discrimination in jobs, housing, and public accomodations on grounds of sexual or affectional preference, took effect Sept. 30.

Homosexuals in Wichita may not have much time to exercise new rights, however. The **Concerned Citizens for Community Standards,** organized early this year to fight the spread of pornography in Wichita, immediately launched a petition drive to call a special election on the ordinance. Another group, **The Coalition for Recall**, hopes to remove from office the city Commissioners who voted for the measure. The Bishop for the Catholic diocese in Wichita announced that the diocese will not abide by the law and urged citizens to work to revoke it; and state and county officials plan to test the law in the courts because, according to the State Attorney General's Office, the city ordinance applies to all governmental units with offices inside the city limits.

Gays are elated over the passage of the ordinance. But after months of meetings, discussions, and acrimonious debates—the **Homophile Alliance** initiated action just days after the defeat of the Miami referendum—gay rights leaders wonder about the future.

The issue seems to differ from Dade County in at least one respect. In Florida, debate focused on gays as teachers. In Wichita, according to **Wichita Eagle and Beacon** reporter Jeff Stinson, it's a question of sodomy and sin. "The attitude here is: 'These people chose their lifestyle. They weren't born black, or a woman. What they've chosen is sinful and by passing this ordinance you're condoning it.' " If anything, religion-based objections to the sexual preference ordinance in Wichita are stronger in the Bible Belt city than they were in the Miami area.

Meanwhile, national groups on both sides have offered their services for the coming battle. What got national attention in Miami, however, may remain local in Wichita. The locals have so far steadfastly refused assistance, and national publicity has been nil.

POLICE STUDY NEW IOWA CODE

Davenport, IA–Because of the revision of the Iowa Code made earlier this year, the first revision since 1851, police handling of sex crimes will change greatly on January 1. Iowa's 6,000 police officers are hurrying to complete the 35 hours of training in the new code which is also required. Many of them are attending classes taught by Davenport Sgt. Allen Sylvia. Courts and private citizens will also be affected by the many major changes in the code.

The biggest single change is that the code does not differentiate between males and females in dealing with sex crimes. It does not define or use the term "deviate sexual activity", nor does the term "rape" occur. Instead the crime of "sex abuse" occurs whenever force or threat of force is used to make someone commit a sexual act, and sexual acts are characterized as any form of genital contact.

Any sexual acts between consenting adults in private are legal. This includes homosexuality and oral-genital sex, both of which were illegal under the old code. Sgt. Sylvia notes



Sgt. Sylvia

that homosexual rape will be covered by the new code, wheras it was not covered by the old one. The code also lowers the age of consent for women from 17 to 14.

Two other major changes allow a spouse to charge his/her mate with sex abuse, and severely restricts the parts of the body displayed by dancers and waiters in establishments serving liquor. Adult bookstores will face new restrictions, and pornography using children or depicting bestiality will be illegal.

Punishment of offenders under the new code relates penalties to the degree of injury or loss suffered by the victim and to the violence (or threat of violence) by the offender. Penalties under the old code varied with each crime, and bore little relationship to severity.

Sgt. Sylvia, who has taught at the Quad-City-Law Enforcement Center, believes that the new code will prove to be much superior to the old one.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL DELAYS GAY RIGHTS DECISION

New York, N.Y.–Amnesty International, the human rights organization and recent winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, has just completed its annual International Council Meeting, at which policy decisions for the organization are made. At the meeting a resolution was proposed that **AI** define violations against homosexuals as a human rights issue, in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which is **AI**'s own mandate.

Amnesty International refused to vote on the proposal at the meeting, and has sent the resolution back to its own Executive Council for further deliberation. It may require as long as one year for them to accept or to reject it.

GPU NEWS has been contacted by a gay woman who is a staff member of **AI–USA**. She has requested anonymity at this point, partly because she feels that such anonymity will enable her to more effectively work for adoption of the resolution within **AI**.

The progress of the resolution will be reported in later issues of GPU NEWS. In the meantime, readers are encouraged to send their personal letters of support for the resolution directly to **AI**, and to encourage other persons who support gay rights to do the same. Please write to: Amnesty International, 2112 Broadway, New York, NY 10023.

BEN SHALOM SPEAKS AT APPLETON

by Mike Mann

Appleton, WI–"The nation's gay population is in for hard times if the liberation movement doesn't come together soon."

This stern warning was given here recently by Miriam ben Shalom, Milwaukee gay activist and president of **Gay Peoples' Union**. She told an audience at Lawrence University that "If we don't get it together nationally in the next two years, we're going to have to go underground."

Ms. ben Shalom spent a November weekend in Appleton and on the Lawrence U campus, for a series of programs sponsored by the **Lawrence Committee for Gay Awareness** and the **Lawrence-Downer Feminist Council**. The varied programs and workshops drew good turnouts. The GPU president said she was happy to provide a spur for the gay liberation movement in the Fox River Valley, and to open some people's minds through her public appearances.

"You don't have to be afraid of us," she told about 100 persons during a keynote address entitled, "Tomorrow May Be Too Late." What gay people are struggling for, she said, is "the right to our dignity as human beings," and non-discrimination in all areas.

Ms. ben Shalom vows to continue her fight with the military over her discharge from the Army Reserve because she is gay.

FEEDBACK

Dear Editor,

Thank you for your letter. I apologize for my delay in answering. As you may know, Bantam has recently published the following titles of special interest to gay persons: **The Fancy Dancer** by Patricia Nell Warren, **Rubyfruit Jungle** by Rita Mae Brown, **The Sorcerer of Bolinas Reef** by Charles Reich and **The David Kopay Story** by David Kopay and Perry Deane Young.

As for future plans, we have nothing specific to report. We hope to continue publishing good literature and nonfiction books that appeal to the gay market. Patricia Nell Warren and Charles Reich have previous Bantam titles, **The Front Runner** and **The Greening of America**, and we hope to continue publishing their works. We also hope to continue publishing new works by Rita Mae Brown, but I have no specific information to share with you at this time.

Sincerely,
Barbara Marcus
Senior Publicist
Bantam Books, Inc.
New York, NY 10019

GPU NEWS:

Please send me your November or December issue of GPU NEWS in a sealed manila envelope. I would appreciate it if you did not put a return address on the envelope as I don't want anyone to know I am gay. Also is there any way to find out about any gay people in my area? I'd love to meet them, but I don't want my family or friends to know.

R.K.
Huntington, IN

Editor's note: Postal regulations require that second class matter be accompanied by return address. GPU NEWS is mailed in a sealed manila envelope, with return address in small letters, so your discretion is preserved.

Dear Friends,

In her November guest editorial, Donna Martin suggests that consideration of gay rights by the U.S. Supreme Court is of "inestimable importance to the furtherance of those rights." This is an example of the sort of sluggish liberal thinking which has brought the civil rights movement to a standstill in this country.

If the Supreme Court were to drop its black satin curtains long enough to hear a case involving gay rights, just what sort of result would Ms Martin expect? The Court's recent decisions concerning pornography cases may give some hints; and, if so, the gay movement can continue to count itself bloody lucky that the court has ignored us all. Benign neglect, after all, is better than malicious attention.

The problem with the Supreme Court has always been the same: the only way to improve its poor judgement is to wait for enough justices to die (senility doesn't count), and hope that they are replaced with improved models. When the Court was stocked with liberals, the conservatives complained; and, now that it is stocked with conservatives, the liberals complain. Both are right, for the problem lies not in conservative or liberal stocking, but in the overuse and over-reliance upon the Court by all.

If we are going to place hope of social and legal reforms upon one or more persons appointed for life, and removable only by death, then let's abnegate the American Revolution and ask for pardon from the Crown. At least Queen Elizabeth has something to offer aesthetically.

Lee C. Rice
Milwaukee, WI

To GPU NEWS:

The film **Looking for Mr. Goodbar** is a pornographic, violent piece of trash. Throughout the film, the lead, played by actress Diane Keaton, is by day a teacher of deaf children and by night a bar-hopping, disco-loving, pill-popping, cheap-thrill-seeker—who picks up some of the sleaziest, scum of the earth.

Keaton meets some real "meat market" men and according to the theme of the film gets what she deserves—she is violently raped and butchered (in a most graphic and sensational style) by a frustrated, psychotic male homosexual who cannot get it on with a woman.

Goodbar, far from being nominated as best film of the year, should be banned! It is a vicious, cruel assault against gay men and particularly against women. The current feminist campaign to sensitize all people to the violence perpetrated against women has apparantly gone unnoticed by filmmaker Richard Brooks. His film is just one example of the anti-woman sentiment rampant in this country. **Goodbar** itself is a crime against women!

The entire Women's, Lesbian's, and Gay Male communities of Milwaukee should come together to force the Downer Theater to discontinue this film, and agree to cancel any others that are anti-gay and anti-woman!

Lyn Le Veque
Milwaukee, WI

Dear GPU NEWS:

I had the opportunity to peruse your publication recently, and having found it to my liking, I would like to submit this letter to you in a way of offering my congratulations on the variety offered in your publication and at the same time request that you send me necessary information that will enable me to become one of your permanent subscribers and supporters.

Wishing you luck in your efforts to bring news to our gay community, I remain,

Yours in gay pride,
E.F.R.
Port Orchard, WA

THE FLORIDA CITRUS BOYCOTT

by michael mitchell

Just in case anyone in the gay community has missed it, there is a major schism developing within the ranks of the activists which promises to affect everyone sooner or later. No, it's not a repeat of the skirmish between the conservative Right and the liberal Left which really shook things up five years ago. Ironically, it stems from a grass roots desire to stand united in the face of oppression, and is manifest in some relatively complicated and major technicalities. I'm talking of course about the gay boycott of Florida oranges and their derivatives and, indirectly, the **Florida Citrus Commission.** They employ Anita Bryant, the leader of the Dade County repeal movement which overturned the special protective civil rights legislation for gays, passed by that municipality. Strong and persuasive arguments are being formulated on both sides of the issue.

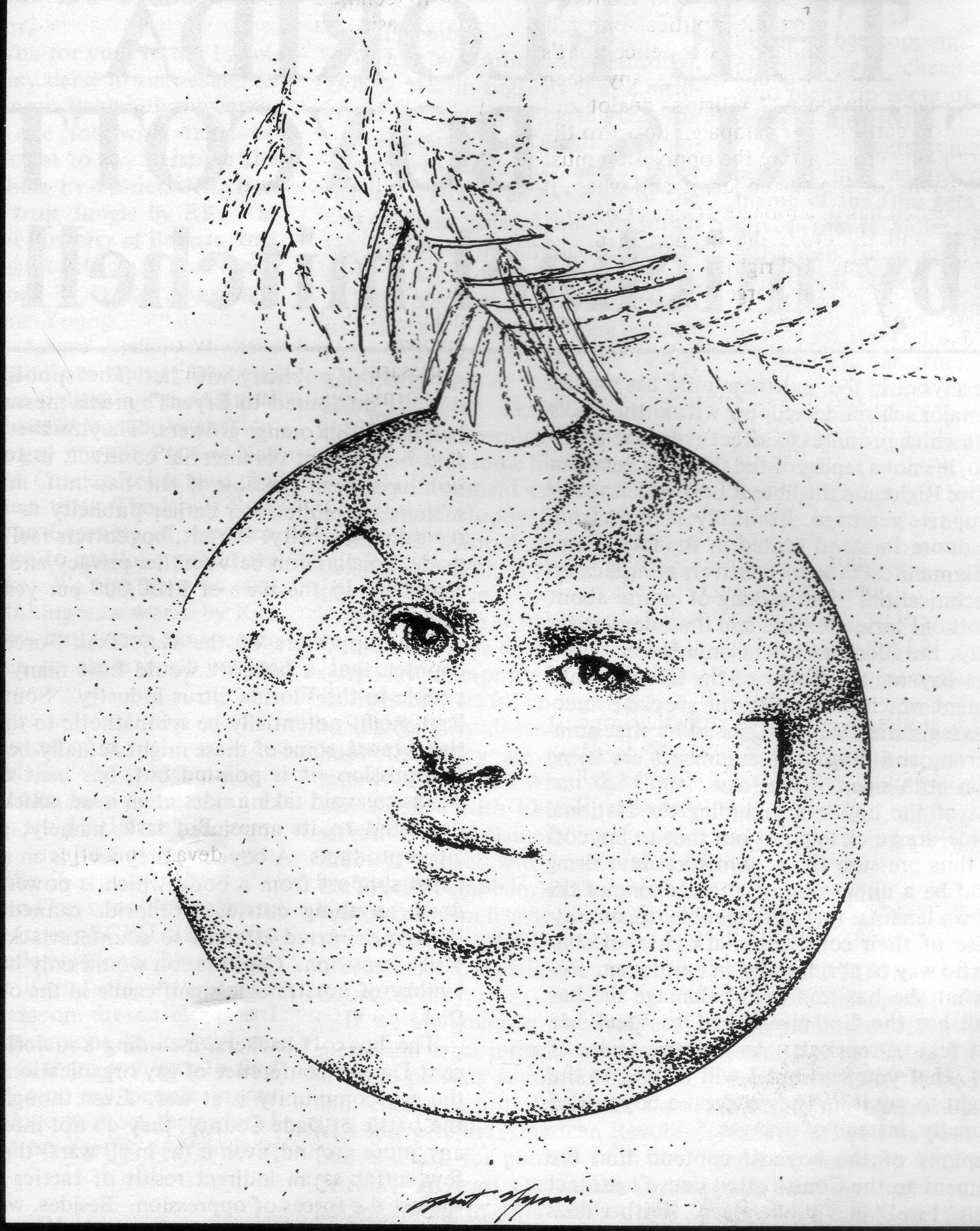
Opponents of the boycott, including the National Gay Task Force, are quick to point out that to boycott oranges and thus pressure the Commission into firing Bryant, would be a direct renunciation of one of the movement's own tenants: that what people do and say in the exercise of their constitutional rights, **off the job,** should in no way be abridged by an employer. Regardless of what she has said or the damage she has done, she still has the God-given right to speak her mind without fear of reprisals. As Voltaire said: "I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it." They suggest a boycott of Bryant, **personally**, instead of oranges.

The champions of the boycott contend that the First Amendment to the Constitution doesn't protect those who yell "Fire!" in a public place. Neither does it support those who attempt to incite a riot or slander the reputation and good name of another citizen. These are exactly the effects Bryant's actions have had on the 20 million Americans who happen to be homosexual. No one, for a minute, is denying that gays lost the ballot show down due to some bias in the political system. Many do contend that Bryant, the **public** personality, has used that position as a springboard into **private** activities, such as Save Our Children, Inc., taking the spot-light of publicity with her. That spot-light can be directly attributed to Bryant's media messages on behalf of Florida orange growers. They further point out that her present commercial contract, in turn, would not have been possible if she had not, in the same manner, exploited her earlier publicity as a film and recording celebrity. Bryant, boycotters feel, has never made a distinction between her privacy and her work, especially to the tune of $100,000 per year, so why should they.

The supporters of the Gay Task Force position counter that a boycott would hurt many innocent people in the Florida citrus industry. Some of those hurt might potentially be sympathetic to the gay civil rights cause; some of these might actually be gay! The Commission, it is pointed out, has bent over backwards to avoid taking sides in an issue which it totally unrelated to its appointed task, namely, promoting citrus products. A boycott, they feel, is an attempt to enlist support from a body which is powerless to endorse **anything** outside of Florida canned sunshine. It's a miscirected attempt to counterattack a de-militarized position. Capitulation would only be a hollow victory of no strategic significance in the overall conflict.

The boycott backers, including a majority at a recent Denver conference of gay organizations, say that the gay community is at war. Even though they lost the battle of Dade County, they do not intend to lose any more ground, even if (as in all wars) the innocent few suffer as an indirect result of tactics employed against the forces of oppression. Besides, what suffering is involved? Orange juice consumption nationwide has risen by a respectable percentage in the last year. Would anyone be financially ruined or left jobless if that figure were to suddenly be cut five or ten per cent? Supporters further feel that, in turning down the referendum by a 2 to 1 margin, Dade County voters (perhaps the most liberal in the entire state of Florida) have spoken for the entire state and therefore should stand the consequences of their actions. What

NOEL



NOEL

Club Baths Milwaukee

better way to make those consequences felt than to hit back where it hurts most—in the pocketbook? The boycott is an attempt to open a second front, an economic one, after losing on the political one. If Bryant loses her job as a secondary consequence, that's unfortunate, but no one is going to lose any sleep over it. Since she is obviously a religious zealot and seems hell-bent on carrying her campaign down to the bitter end, someone representing the opposition must be held responsible for the surrender, if and when, it comes. That burden has fallen on the Citrus Commission by default and therefore the need of a public declaration supporting gay civil rights.

The gay boycott opposition charges that badly needed resources are being drained away from more urgent priorities. National opinion polls show that those people who personally know a homosexual (and perhaps something first-hand of gay oppression) are decidedly more favorable towards gay civil rights legislation. Therefore, the task at hand should be to mount a national educational **blitz** in order to effectively counter the half-truths, distortions, and prefabrications of Bryant and others of her born-again ilk. That means writing letters to the major media sponsors, taking out ads in major publications, and arranging public speaking engagements. That kind of positive action takes time, money, and a huge amount of volunteer labor; all of which is now being parceled out, piecemeal, in disorganized fashion in the boycott action.

The counter argument is that to stop the boycott would, in effect, deny thousands of gays an opportunity to vent some of their pent-up anger and frustration against one of the first widely recognized symbols of oppression to surface in several years. By endorsing the boycott, supporters contend that they are simply giving formal sanction to what is proving to be a spontaneous mass movement by both gays and sympathetic straights. Unlike a more complex program of public education, the boycott doesn't ask for financial contributions from small town gays and isolated individuals who can expect almost no direct input opportunities or say in the program itself.

. . .so the debate rages.

All technical arguments over the Florida orange juice action aside, there is a great deal to be said of boycotting as a practical weapon in a non-violent offensive against oppression of any kind. Along with hunger strikes, mass demonstrations, and job actions, boycotts have proven to be indispensible.

Unlike more sophisticated tactics, a boycott is a concept which is easily understood. It doesn't require a formal organization to run it and it doesn't demand large blocks of time to implement. Except for the few more minutes needed to read product labels in the supermarket, for example, a boycott doesn't place major demands on the participants, unless the boycott involves a major necessity of life. Boycotts need not necessarily be large in scale or complicated. In one California town with a large gay population, a flood of dollar bills with their corners torn off began to appear. It was finally learned that the "funny money" was a silent protest against the local chief-of-police (a boycott type action) who had a vendetta against homosexuals. The police chief was removed from office.

Boycotts enable everyone, from the dullest to the brightest, to contribute and see that contribution directly reflected in the overall impact. Communications need not be any more sophisticated than word-of-mouth, with short public declarations from time to time. Since there need not be any formal public organization, individual leaders or members can't be easily singled out for special retribution as an example to others who might participate. Yet, the boycott is self-enforcing since it is in the interest of all that unity be maintained at all times. Boycotts are not easy to combat and they can have devastating effects. They were used effectively against colonialism in India. They rallied the oppressed against racism in the South. Now, a similar tactic, called an embargo, is being used against apartheid in South Africa. With a boycott, the poorer masses can collectively strike back against the wealthy few who often make oppression (or at least the status

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quo) possible.

. . .However.

It has recently come to light that the gay community may have just made a fool of its collective self by participating in the Coors beer boycott. It appears that the Teamsters Union, highly organized, well financed and run by capable propagandists, has distorted certain gay related issues, in order to win gay support for a boycott which was designed primarily to achieve labor concessions from the company. When one relates the seriousness of the factual gay issues to the amount of effort and publicity that was expended, one can only compare the gay community to a dog chasing its tail. Much ado about nothing. Now there's nothing wrong with one special interest group or minority helping another; that's the story behind the Democratic Party. However, it can't be anything but embarrassing if what a boycott started out to achieve turns out to have no basis in fact.

This unfortunate incident points up one of several short-comings characteristic of boycott stratagems. Boycotts are usually highly emotional and therefore harder to conduct in a tightly calculated manner as a picket line would be, for example. Since lines of communication are so thin and undependable in large-scale actions, rumors can totally misdirect or deflate a boycott almost overnight. Boycotts are often one-shot affairs which can't be called off and then on with any effective degree of predictability. Several leaders of differing viewpoints can splinter a boycott before it even gets rolling. If rival factions are recognized by the forces of oppression, it becomes a relatively simple matter to play one faction against the other(s), thereby inflicting twice the damage to minority unity. Conducting a boycott which doesn't substantially curtail sales is like having one's bluff called in a poker game, a risky venture if holding the wrong cards. They're not all-or-nothing affairs by any means, but they do have to produce substantial results in order to capitalize on the fear that the boycott might be expanded.

As the gay community learns to flex its economic muscle in the marketplace in order to win political concessions, it should expect to make mistakes from time to time. After all, this is perhaps the most organized homosexuals, as such, have been in any period in history. Boycotts, like real weapons, can prove to be double edged swords when placed in the hands of the inexperienced and untrained. Hopefully the leaders and participants of future boycotts will recognize this socio-political rapier for its full potential and limitations. Some situations favor boycotts, some require their use in conjunction with other methods, while in still other situations, boycotts are unsuitable. Hopefully, we will learn to judge a situation as well as we judge our choice of weapon. After all, who ever heard of anyone being shot with a sword?

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MORE ON THE BOYCOTT

by lee c. rice

In the wake of Anita Bryant's Dade County victory and the extension of her "crusade" to other U.S. communities, one of the responses from various segments of the gay community has been the boycott of Florida orange juice; while the other segments of that same community have argued that the boycott is either impracticable or morally wrong (or both). Some of the former types of arguments have hinged on questions of feasibility and effectiveness, and it is not to these questions that I address the considerations following. Others, however, have argued that a boycott of Florida orange juice would seriously compromise Bryant's own rights and freedom of expression, and that those supporting such a boycott are in fact anti-democratic. This argument is moral in structure, and centers upon the commitment to democracy as a real value; and I propose to have a closer look at it.

Democracy is, as I conceive it at least, a system of community government in which community members have a right to participate in the making of decisions which affect them individually or collectively. The most basic presupposition of democracy is that of the existence of a community in which it may be operative. The constitutional conditions of democracy are of two basic sorts, political freedoms and freedoms of speech. Freedoms of speech can be broken down further into several sub-conditions, the most important of which are the freedom to **propose** (policies and candidates) and the freedom to **oppose** (ditto). As used in the following paragrahps, the term "democrat" refers not to a member of the Democratic Party (as opposed to Republican), but rather to someone who has a commitment to democracy.

Before looking at the debate on the boycott, I want to look at one rather abstract question very briefly, the "Why be a democrat." Readers turned off by abstract or philosophical discussions may want to stop reading at this point; and, for those who do, my suggestion is that they also stop talking about the boycott. The discussion of practical policy matters often has a set of more abstract principles lurking just below its surface, and the price one pays for ignoring these is usually confusion. The orange juice boycott, I want to argue, is a good example of this.

To the question "Why be a democrat" many answers have been given, but I believe that they fall into two basic argument types. The first I'll call the conditional answer. It goes something like this. Democracy, while it may have its flaws and setbacks, has proven (historically) that it can best deliver certain goods and results in the long run. It is, therefore, a better means to certain desired ends than any available alternative. This is a conditional argument because it says that democracy is valuable for its payoffs, and those payoffs may be better distribution of wealth, marketable goods, health, information, etc. Democracy, then, is like a tool—good for what it does, but of no special interest or value in its own right. It seems to me that this conditional argument is very popular among political scientists and economists today.

Another argument is to be found in the works of such thinkers as the American philosopher John Dewey, or the psychologist B.F. Skinner, and (I suspect) the founders of the U.S. Constitution as well. It says that democracy is desirable, not as a means to some other end, but because it represents a morally superior development of community life and spirit. A democratic community, in short, represents a better, fuller, more mature life to all of its members. It may also deliver certain other goods (the goods of the conditional argument), but that would be beside the point. If I describe this second sort of position vaguely, it is because a full description would entail a study of the nature of community and the structure of human values; and for that I send the reader to Dewey or Skinner.

The two positions are not exclusive: one can hold that democracy is superior both as a means and as an end. The positions do, however, circumscribe differing viewpoints of what is important in democratic thinking and action; and these different viewpoints often lead to radically different proposals.

One easy, though controversial, example of the above point is the Supreme Court's "clear-and-present-danger" restriction on freedom of speech, which clearly presupposes a conditional view of democracy. Freedom of speech is a condition of democracy, and democracy does produce certain desirable results; but, in cases where freedom of speech may conflict with **other** desirable results, it may be set aside or restricted. If the authors of the U.S. Constitution had intended to establish the principle that "Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of speech except where such freedom creates clear and present dangers of certain kinds", they would surely have said so. That they did not formulate the Amendment in that fashion suggests two points: 1) they did not hold the conditional view of democracy, and 2) the present Supreme Court interpretation is unconstitutional.

Now let's turn to the boycott controversy, armed with the distinctions made above. Suppose one opts for the conditional viewpoint: democracy produces desired results more times than not, so freedom of speech should be protected more times than not. Obviously

the argument that boycotting orange juice will limit Anita's freedom of expression will be heavily inconclusive in this context; for there may be other, even higher, ends in view—the rights of self-determination and self-respect of gay persons will surely fall into this hopper. So, for the conditional viewpoint, the argument against the boycott is not only unconvincing, but also rather defeasible.

I suspect that most of those arguing against the boycott are taking the second perspective: democracy and freedom of expression are intrinsic goods, and we compromise them at our own risk. Essential to the pronouncements which Dr. Voeller of the National Gay Task Force has made is this point: you cannot and should not protect the freedoms of expression for gay persons by attacking Bryant's freedom of expression.

The argument in its general form is correct, so let me state it as a paradox (which it isn't). If I am commited to democracy as a value **in its own right**. then I am also commited to defend the freedom of expression of those people who are opposed to democracy and/or to freedom of expression. The U.S. Nazi Party is the best example: being commited to democracy means full opposition to what the nazis say, and also full opposition to any and every attempt to prevent them from saying it. Voltaire said it better than I can: "I oppose everything you say, but I'll fight to the death for your right to say it." There is no real paradox here because for one commited to democracy as a real and living value, the presence of risk is not decisive; and nobody ever proved that democracy wasn't a risky business anyway.

And now another paradox. Dr. Voeller and others are quite correct in their statement of the above principle of freedom of expression within the unconditional context, but they are, I believe, dead wrong in the application which they make of it to the orange juice boycott. Look again at the example of the Nazi Party in terms of the putative values of democracy. As a democrat my obligation is to the community, not to the Nazi Party; but it is an obligation of noninterference —I must not make any attempt to prevent or suppress the freedoms of expression which nazis have. Those freedoms, Dewey would have said, are either such that we all have them or none of us have them (freedom cannot be differentially distributed). Suppose, however, that a nazi shows up at my door asking for contributions. Does my commitment to democracy entail an obligation to actively contribute? In no way. In short, while unconditional commitment to democracy requires a principle of noninterference, it does not require a principle of active support for any and all parties within a community who wish to exercise their freedoms of expression.

Return now to Ms Bryant and the boycott. If, as is probably the case, some fixed percentage of every dollar spent on Florida orange juice goes to Ms Bryant and through her to her anti-gay crusade, I can easily be fully commited to Ms Bryant's freedoms, and still refuse to spend one penny in support of her or of her crusade. The decision of whether or not to boycott orange juice has nothing whatever to do with democracy or the freedom of expression (hers or mine), and it is a mistake to think that it does. This does not mean

SNOW FLAKES ARE DANCING

Circus

77

that the boycott is a good idea, but it does mean that many of the arguments against it are simply wrong-headed. The boycott issue is best considered within the context of how to utilize intelligently the free market, and that is a question which I am not raising here.

Two conclusions follow. Those who argue that the boycott is undemocratic because it assaults Ms. Bryant's freedoms of expression are simply wrong: it does no such thing. Those who argue that a commitment to democracy requires gay persons to boycott orange juice are also wrong, for the belief in democracy does not decide the issue either way. Just in case there are any readers not offended by either of these points, let me add one further conclusion, unsupported but quite supportable. Some arguments concerning the boycott have also been offered which turn about the free market itself, and this is also a sore spot within the gay community.

In the literature of some gay organizations one frequently finds the position that the democratic commitment to free expression for all persons (gays included) also requires some form of socialism, insofar as the free market and democracy are somehow antipathetic. Opposed to these are other gay persons and groups who argue that liberation requires the free market as a means of expression. The ongoing argument has led, in recent years, to a politicization of many gay organizations, and a certain disunity which is undesirable in its own right.

Again, however, politicization and disunity are only symptoms, and the disease lies deeper; for both parties are wrong. A commitment to gay liberation and a belief in the high values of democratic community no more commit one to capitalism than they do to socialism. In a way perhaps that's too bad—it would be nice if one commitment decided all other questions; but, fortunately or unfortunately, life is not so simple. Gay liberation is, I believe, a consequence of democratic values, because democracy does embrace both pluralism and rationality; and the only arguments against gay liberation are religious in structure, and thus anti-pluralistic and irrational in nature. Once that position is brought home, however, the question of economic systems remains just as open as it was before; and those who believe that they can settle the economic questions by appealing to democracy or gay liberation are simply barking up the wrong tree.

My argument throughout this article has been somewhat negative in tone, since I have tried to show that this-or-that argument currently being offered in defense of one policy or another will not do what its proponents believe that it will do. The positive side of the coin, however, is just this. If gay liberation is to have a positive and long lasting impact upon human culture and thought, it is not enough that it offer the right answers: it must also offer the right reasons.

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UNDOING SEX STEREOTYPES

AN ESSAY – REVIEW by wayne jefferson

Undoing Sex Stereotypes: Research and Resources for Educators by Marcia Guttentag and Helen Bray, McGraw-Hill Book Company, New York, 1976, 342 pages, paper, $5.95.

Will you welcome, please, a new era where the old male and female roles are defunct, and where people are free to be—you and me! Where Butch is not just butch and William can have his doll—and where Sally can be spunky and not just frilly.

Q. Just exactly what the hell are you trying to say?

A. That it's time for "gender-role-liberation." The culture still assigns ways of acting and feeling which it thinks are necessary, for men and for women.

Q. Yes, how dull. But do you mean that men should be womanly and women masculine?

A. Not a bit of it; so-called "role reversal" ain't liberation. In "human liberation," each person will be psychologically complete, will wear both petticoats and Male Armor in a sense. This state is "androgyny," a blending within the same person the supposedly male and female traits of initiative and sensitivity, assertion and receptivity, logic and intuition.

Q. The Compleat Person. But what has all this stuff got to do with the gay dimension?

A. Not everything—and yet quite a lot. Gay lib concerns sexual orientation, would remove oppression of gays, and move from homophobia to gay liberation. Human liberation concerns gender-roles, and would move past stereotypes toward androgyny. And androgyny is a blending of psychological traits, which isn't necessarily "bisexuality," which is combining or alternating actual physical behaviors.

Further, gender-role liberation fights "sexism." This loosely-used word is the twin belief that one gender is (A) different from, and especially (B) superior to the other—as in male chauvinism. This male (or female) chauvinism is like white (or black) racism, or for that matter "heterosexism" or Straight Superiority—or even Gay Chauvinism, for that matter.

Q. I wish I hadn't asked. But doesn't society confuse gender roles and sexual orientation?

A. Yeah, it not only wrongly marries up your gender and your role, but also your behavior and your sexual orientation. 'Tain't so, of course; we all know of wispy males who are straight as a locomotive and lumberjock types who fancy other non-fancy, hairy-chested men.

Q. So society says "sissy equals fairy"?

A. All the time; the gay boy who likes other boys is in hot soup, but so also is the straight boy who likes "unmasculine" roles. He might be dubbed—well, "Sensitive," or "Different."

Q. You mean queer as a three-dollar bill. But isn't this all old hat now? Don't we all know, and avoid, these sex stereotypes today?

A. Yes and no; America is varied. The woman is still typed as the pure Goddess, or the opposite—a torrid Sexpot, the dizzy Chick, the faithful Servant; of course, the dangerous threatening Witch/Bitch, and the revered Earth Mother. Images of the male exist too, but they're much less analyzed, probably because males aren't supposed to introspect. There's the man as the Sturdy Oak—tough, unemotional, self-reliant; the Big Wheel—crazed with the need for competition, dominance, initiative, control, and status-success; and in the Give 'em Hell type—aggression, violence, and derring-do.

Q. Aha, as James Baldwin said, "blunt, bluff, hearty, and totally meaningless." But aren't these human traits valuable and necessary?

A. Yes, but only when freely chosen by the person, and balanced too, to avoid the lopsided hysterical female, the emotionally-arthritic John Wayne types.

Q. So it's not just gays who society stereotypes—the Sick Pittiable Cripple, the Evil Wilful Pervert, the Incomplete Man or Woman. But do the male and female roles still exist?

A. They sure do in the wild and non-wonderful world of today's books for children, which this book studied. There you have spunky, derring-do Dicks behind which stand retiring girls, Janes who were weak, distant absent—little Servants already. Children's books still don't reflect a liberated world. In them, girls are still generally "unrealized or unpleasant," and good old Mom is often "an insipid lady who flutters around chronically worrying and inanely commenting." It's the Cult of the Apron, plus the Little Miss Fuffet Syndrome, which depicts females as "helpless, easily frightened, and dreadfully dull." Actually, the damaging image of women in children's books was poetically described as follows: females do the following:

> *Count votes for males who were nominated, accompany men to the hunt, find their beauty is shortlived, sit with their fans in their hands and gold combs in their hair; put cream on their faces and "lie in bed staring at the ceiling and wishing they had some decent jewelry to wear at the Ball," poison their husbands, get eaten up by alligators, "cut and gather grain and sing to no one," listen to men give speeches, rear children, do silly ridiculous things, and ride with the Devil.*

Q. But what about the image of gay people in the children's books?

A. Would you believe—in the dozens of volumes, Sue and Sally haven't yet surfaced. Gay is still grim for John and Jim, thus.

Q. What did **Undoing Sex Stereotypes** try to do?

A. In three Boston schools, in grades K, 3, and 9, the authors measured children's attitudes, then did a "nonsexist intervention project" to try to soften attitudes toward androgyny, then did a follow-up test to measure what happened or didn't. Their goal was to offer more liberated ways of nonsexist thinking, acting, playing, working, personal roles, sports, awareness of stereotypes in history, literature, the media, and how stereotypes damage everyone. They felt this could be done since (they presume) gender-role is not solidly welded to personal identity, hence can be altered without damaging the person's core-self.

Q. Aha, girls as problem-solvers in any career they want, and boys as sensitive, emotional, and quite at home doing housework, not unmanned after all. But did the book point out why gender-roles can truly be bad, bad, bad?

A. Yes, yes, yes. First, they're sheerly impractical, a trency argument in this day and age which seems so concerned with the "scarcity of human resources" ahead of the luxuries of human liberation. A man who can't squeeze orange juice (the book's own example) or be "sensitive to nuances" may thus be as inefficient as a woman who can't use a hammer (other than to dispatch her spouse hysterically, of course) or be appropriately forthright.

There's a second reason—gender roles crimp an individual's fulfillment, his unique identity, his becoming the person s/he was meant to be. My sister might want to weld the stove I might prefer to cook on. Then too, it makes for just plain more interesting persons, and more sparky relationships. Edna Ferber, in **A Kind of Magic**, said how this kind of androgyny is appealing:

> *Women are women and men are men and vive la difference. But for me there is no greater bore than a 100 percent male or female. Confronted by a massive two-fisted, barrel-chested he-man, or a fluttering itsy-bitsy, all-tendril female, I run from their irksome company. The men and women I prize are a happy blend of male and female characteristics. A man who is masculine with a definitely female streak of perception, intuition and tenderness is a whole man; he is an interesting man, a gay companion, a complete lover. A woman who possesses a sufficient strain of masculinity to make her thoughtful, decisive, worldly in the best meaning of the word; fiar; self-reliant; companionable—this is a whole woman. The feminine in the man is the sugar in the whiskey. The masculine in the woman is the yeast in the bread. Without these ingredients the result is flat, without tang or flavor.*

And Jessamyn West, in **To See the Dream**, felt the same thing:

> *The men who have most enthralled women are those who combine an exterior which is extremely masculine with a psyche which has much femininity. No man without this admixture would be able to be with a woman as much as she wants him to be, or would have the tact, the intuition, the tenderness which, finally, enthrall her beyond all derring-do.*

Q. Isn't this pretty heady, risky, threatening conventional types? Might imply squishiness in a man and Hard Edges in a woman?

A. Yes, but only to unliberated people. But on that line there's more. Could androgyny actually be erotically appealing? Susan Sontag, author of "Notes on Camp," thought so:

> *. . .a mostly unacknowledged truth of taste: the most refined form of sexual attractiveness (as well as the most refined form of sexual pleasure) consists in going against the grain of one's sex. What is most geautiful in virile men is something feminine; what is most beautiful in feminine women is something masculine. . .*

Q. How I can dig it—you get the whole attractive package, in bed and out. But do most people, straight or gay, feel this way?

A. Who knows? I sometimes doubt it, when I see gay males one-sidedly pursuing "masculinity" instead of complete and charming person-hood in their partners at all costs. I'm for Androgyny Liberation—but don't get too close to me, there.

Q. Oh all right. I have a back-ache anyway. But if this gender-role lock-in is so bad, how did it get started, and why does it continue as it does?

A. In early times, survival demanded the male's increased strength—oh, you brute! And it continues now just as racism, homophobia, chauvinism continues—"because it does," in all parts of the stubborn cake of custom. Then, too, up to now, good role-models were scarce—there were few achieving women, emotionally agile men, openly-healthy gay people. Then there's still peer-pressure, and pressure from within—not only society, but one's socialized self, says to one's self: "Self, act like a man, not a wimp, and/or behave like a lady." After all, gender-role is linked, in most people's minds, with self-esteem.

Q. Yeah, but I still think you're beating a straw dog, whipping a lame elephant. Haven't people changed somewhat? You're out of touch!

A. Am I? Again yes and no. The job stereotypes have indeed eased, but underneath, the psychological images of men and women cling toughly. As the book notes, the woman's movement has

> *caused the blatant myths about the inadequacy of women for jobs and careers to disappear. But the subtle stereotypes have not vanished; they have gone underground. People may not admit that a woman cannot be a mechanic, but they hint that she wouldn't enjoy it. People may not malign a man who works in a nursery school, but they may feel snobbish toward him.*

Q. Sort of like the attitudes to gays? Like the change from "beat up the fruit" to "ho-hum, do your own thing" but underneath that public tolerance, no real private acceptance?

A. You bet your sequined combat boots on that. Of course, fruits still get beaten up with regularity. Hey let's switch roles; I'll ask a few questions here. Isn't there role-playing in the gay world too?

Q. Sure is—or was, anyway. Remember the Swish, the Nellie, the Blase, the Queenly Camp, as the psychologist C.A. Tripp noted? But the old days of the severe

butch-femme style have eased. No longer does this "role-assignment" make the gay male feel he must whip up a souffle, or else.

A. Ah, but do gay males still play, if not gay roles, at least male ones? Are they, even though gay, still competitive, dominant, controlling, unemotional, and the like?

Q. Bingo, that's a big big problem, though the little-known "Men's Liberation" talks about this more than Gay Lib seems to. And this Sturdy Oak and Big Wheel facade is especially harmful for gay males, of course, who naturally wish to move more beyond plastic har-de-har buddyship into relationships, with lovers and with friends, which are open, close, tender, cooperative.

A. Brilliant analysis—that is, if I as a male can warmly compliment you, not coolly compete. But can these gender-roles be changed?

Q. The book tackles that and you'd never guess who the villain is in the case—Male Chauvinism! It is ugly and scary really. While the girls "showed greater glexibility and expanded their ideas" in this area, the boys "disregarded or squelched" non-sexist values and they "more rigidly enforced stereotype limitations." In fact, after the intervention project, the ninth-grade boys, midget machos all, actually stereotyped both occupational and personality roles more than before.

A. Ouch, a backfire. But surely seeds were planted?

Q. Of course, which is about all that can be done in the schools. The primary socializing agent is, of course, society itself.

A. So how would you evaluate this book?

Q. Why, with haughty hoity one-upmanship, just like the traditional genteel-macho role of the (male) literary critic. But seriously—the book's good, it gives exercises resources and the orchids and onions from actual in-class experience. It also gives badly needed historical and anthropological perspective to loosen up our caked and encrusted roles. Education has been both sexist, culture-bound and time-narrow. Who, for example, were Susan B. Anthony, Jane Addams, Clara Barton, Emma Goldman, and for that matter Harriett Tubman, Sojourner Truth and Ah Toy?

A. Don't ask the Person in the Street today; s/he doesn't even know there's an energy crisis, let alone what the Supreme Court did with the Gaylord case. Indeed, where are the males in all this?

Q. That's where teh book falters. Strong on feminism, it's weak on gentle men. Furthermore, "homosexuality" is mentioned only once in the whole book. Most children felt men must be strong breadwinners first and always, and then,

> *If a man fulfills these indispensable duties and has these necessary qualities, he may also be kind to children, be a gourmet cook, and be sensitive to other people's feelings. If he is not strong, he is a sissy or a homosexual.*

I guess we have a ways to go yet.

A. We surely do. It's easy for book-reviewers to carp, but is it just possible that this book itself, is as oppressive to gays, as it charges education is oppressive to males and especially to women now? I think so, for it doesn't face head-on the problem of reducing homophobia, the "pervasive and irrational dread of homosexuality" which is after all the real problem, and an intimate part of sex-role rigidity. Surely a non-male role doesn't diagnose that the man is homosexual, just as surely as that even if it does, a proper response is So What, homosexuality itself needn't mean Curse/Tragedy/Disaster. But kids still presume that "sissy" equals "fairy" and that "faggot equals monster". And this will block Boys' Liberation at least.

Q. But isn't this too hot for schools to handle?

A. Well, it's made much worse if we think that it is too hot to handle—thinking makes it so, and there's truth not a sentimentality there. So here's to gentle Mister Rogers in the classroom, even if not gay-and-achieving Dave Kopay just yet.

Q. Right; let the kids go to school via this book, and let their parents, incidentally, read one of the two best books toward gender-role liberation, Jack Nichols' **Men's Liberation** or Gene Marine's **A Male Guide to Woman's Liberation.** Then maybe we'll avoid the human casualties of people who swallow a gender-role wholesale. And we've all seen them. I once asked students to complete the story starting: "At the end of the first semester of medical school, Jane finds herself at the head of the class." You wouldn't believe the ways in which the students cuffed that non-typical female back into line. They dropped her out and married her off; they side-tracked her into nursing; they even offered Sudden Death by Car and of course, emerging Lesbianism, with the dreary rider of man-hatred.

A. Sort of like the older gay novels and plays in which the fairy was invariably killed off in the end?

Q. Yes, death to the deviate in all cases. Come and live in our Equal Opportunity country. But things do improve. I no longer feel threatened by an aggressive woman, but somehow I still feel paternalistic toward a woman pumping gas. But you know, it's really getting late.

A. Yes. So the ideal is Human Liberation where the male-female split doesn't matter, nor does the gay-straight, nor sex-and-love, even, and where roles can be easily shelved when that's best. Hey, how about coming over to my place for dinner and a back rub?

Q. But isn't that a little—well, intimate for two males? Besides, we haven't decided who's going to be in Control.

A. Balderdash again. We'll cook dinner together—no competition and then listen to music or hell, watch sports if you wish. And a back rub can be sensuous without necessarily being sexual.

Q. What's wrong with being sexual?

A. Now you're getting the idea. Seduced by rolelessness! You're even being silly.

Q. Dig it. Right this way, sir. (Exit, in a non-manly way.)

Big enough to 'party-party,' but small enough to do your own thing.



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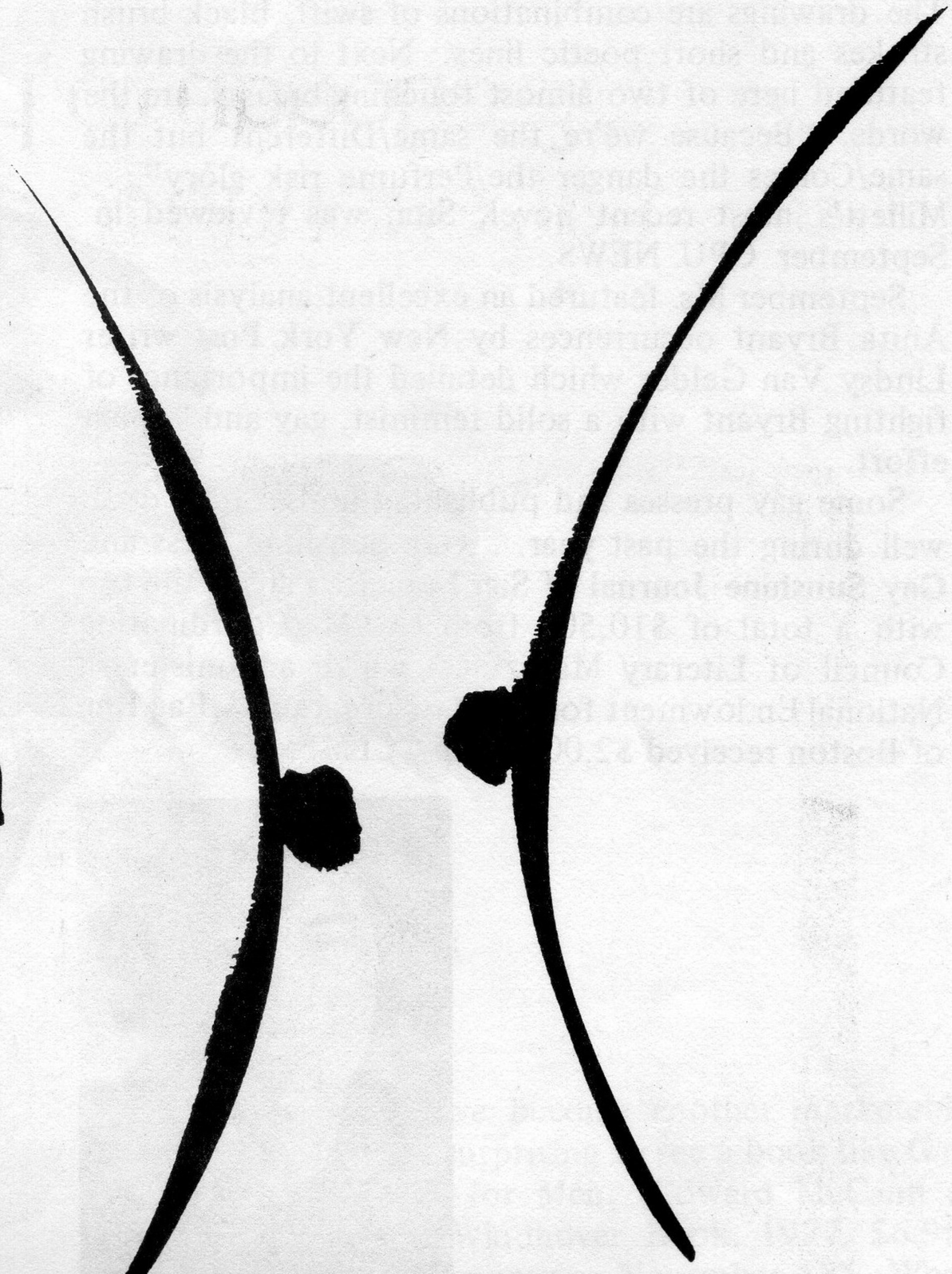
READING WRITING

by peter pehrson

Esquire Magazine, in an exclusive to GPU NEWS, confirms the item mentioned in this column in the October issue about an "all gay issue" to hit the stands. Lou Ann Walker, assistant to editor Byron Dobell, comments, "We had been kicking the idea around the office, but with the acquisition of the magazine by Clay Felker (former owner of **New York Magazine** and **Village Voice** who lost those publications in a recent stockholders' fracas–P.P.), a number of our plans are in a state of flux. . .The subject is alive and well in a number of editors' minds and it's just a matter of time."

Dracula, which was a critical success when I saw it last month in previews, is saved by the stunning touch of master-illustrator Edward Gorey who designed sets and costumes. Gorey, known for his singular treatment of single men and children, has written and illustrated over fifty volumes of black, witty humor with such titles as **The Insect God, The Curious Sofa,** and **The Unstrung Harp; or Mr. Earbass Writes a Novel.** The following nugget of erotica is extracted from an otherwise undistinguished second act: "Yes, it was Minnie! Minnie is the Heathrow Horrow all the papers have been talking about. She, who lures little girls from the streets with chocolates into darkened corners–there to fondle them, kiss their lips and, at the final moment, to bite their necks!. . .Hmmm. I understand, though, some went back for more. . ."

Sounds like a rip-roaring time. It has not been determined whether this dialogue is a result of Mr. Gorey's influence. Mr. Gorey, however, is a favorite of autograph hounds around Manhattan in the winter; he is easily spotted at performances of the New York City Ballet, in a full-length fur coat and a gold earring in each ear. His genius is enjoyed by many. . .



A Millet drawing with words
Chuck Levitan Gallery

Author, raconteur, and general delight, Kate Millett, has been exhibiting her latest work in NoHo (distinct, yet once again, from SoHo). The collection is called "The Lesbian Body." Speaking of her career as a visual artist, Millett says, "I've been drawing about eighteen years and only writing for about eight, but it seemed right finally to combine them a moment. Many conceptual artists do this, but very differently, and I doubt if I'd gone ahead with it if I hadn't always been so fond of the Japanese Masters who do both unhesitatingly . . ." Will she pursue one career over another? "I have no idea if I'll go on writing or drawing. . .but at the moment, it seems to satisfy a number of impulses at once, erotic, linear, literary and lesbian." The title of the exhibit is taken from the novel by Monique Wittig.

The drawings are combinations of swift, black brush strokes and short poetic lines. Next to the drawing featured here of two almost touching breasts, are the words, "Because we're the same/Different but the same/Comes the danger the/Perfume risk glory". . . Millett's most recent novel, **Sita**, was reviewed in September GPU NEWS.

September **Ms.** featured an excellent analysis of the Anita Bryant occurrences by **New York Post** writer Lindsy Van Gelder which detailed the importance of fighting Bryant with a solid feminist, gay and lesbian effort. . .

Some gay presses and publishing houses have done well during the past year. . .**Gay Sunshine Press** and **Gay Sunshine Journal** of San Francisco are at the top with a total of $10,500 from CCLM (Coordinating Council of Literary Magazines) which administers a National Endowment for the Arts program. . .**Fag Rag** of Boston received $2,000 from CCLM. . .



Rita Mae Brown



Photo by Tee Corinne from **Sinister Wisdom**

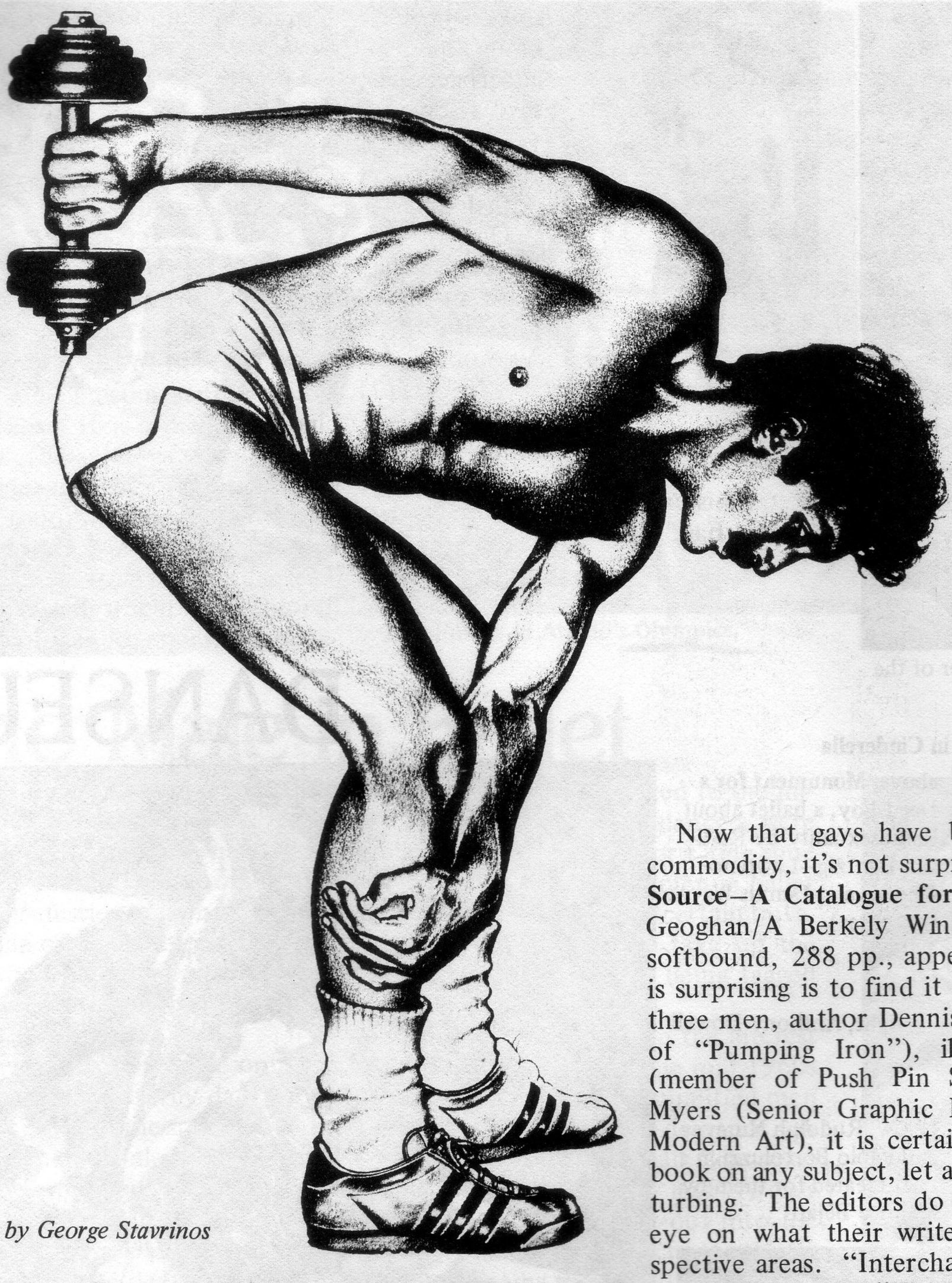
You have to be incommunicado, or worse, not to know that Rita Mae Brown's **Rubyfruit Jungle** is in paperback. Here is a picture. Her prose is as comely as she. Bravo. When Daughters, Inc. published it, it ran to 70,000 copies—an underground best seller. Film rights have been optioned to Iris Productions with Joan Twekesbury slated to direct.

Quentin Crisp, currently in New York to publicize his book, **The Naked Civil Servant**, announced the release of the Thames—TV production of the same name in this country. For rental or sale, contact Arthur Cantor Associates, 234 West 44th St., NYC, NY 10036, (212) 391-0450.

Harriet Desmoines and Catherine Nicholson edit **Sinister Wisdom** from North Carolina. It is subtitled: "A Journal of Words and Pictures for the Lesbian Imagination in All Women." It is helpful, politically, to all—gay men in particular. These editors outline precisely the need for small press gay and lesbian publications: "Corporate America controls establishment publishing because control on communications ensures control of politics and industry. . .If you control the intellectual life of the nation, you kill revolution because revolution begins in the mind. The lesbian press exists primarily to make revolution. They don't exist to create an alternate economy. A chain of lesbian laundromats would make more money." They go on to explain the need for a downfall of the patriarchy. But don't think for a minute they mean all men. The patriarchy is that part of society which oppresses gay men and lesbians as well as itself. Published three times a year, **Sinister Wisdom** contains in the Fall 1977 issue "Anita Bryant—A Lesbian View." This piece is a compilation of two speeches—Adrienne Rich's in New York at the Lesbian Pride Rally and Elizabeth Knowlton's at Atlanta's Gay Pride March. Sinister Wisdom, 3116 Country Club Drive, Charlotte, NC 28205; 3 issues (one year) $4.50. . .

Times Change Press, publishers of **The Early Homosexual Movement, 1864—1935**;announces that it is soliciting material for future publications. They are looking for book descriptions on ways people are making positive changes in their personal and political worlds. Lesbians and gay men would seem to be a natural for this. . .send description only and self-addressed, stamped envelope to Box 196, Albion, CA 94510. . .

"Valentine: romance is a fraud/i stole from a bakery to make me normal, sick and fat/it has nothing to do with puritanism/but valentine's a shitty night when after all my poems/you'll be sleeping with someone new." This is from Ellen Mari Bissert's collection of lesbian poems, **The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Dyke.** Whew! Bissert is power and she drives line after line home with considerable punch and love. It is well versed and witty. From 13th Moon, P.O. Box 3, Inwood Station, NYC, NY. 10034; $3,



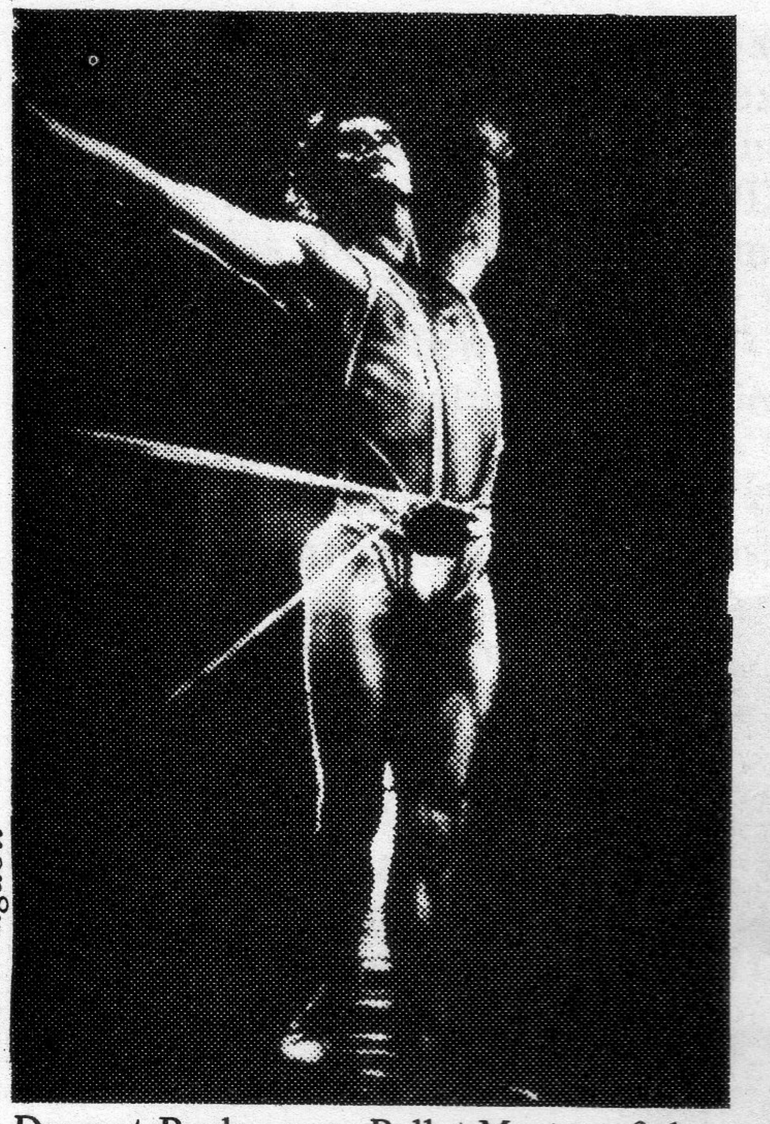
Drawing by George Stavrinos

A sadness on the small gay magazine scene is the final issue, Number 13, of **Mouth of the Dragon.** This magazine is owed an enormous debt by those of us who were lucky enough to have cut some of our teeth on words through the grace of editor Andrew Bifrost. . .He writes, "The reasons for ending it are many and I'd like to get more distance between me and the experience before discussing them. . .**Mouth of the Dragon** means the voice from within, i.e., poetry itself. It also creates fire, as faggots, we are told were wont to do. . ." Back issues of this unique poetry journal for men are available from Mouth of the Dragon, P.O. Box 107–Cooper Station, NYC, NY 10007.. . .Numbers 1-2, sold out, Numbers 3-13, $2, Number 11/12 (double issue), $3.

Now that gays have become another marketable commodity, it's not surprising to see a book like **Gay Source–A Catalogue for Men,** (Coward McCann & Geoghan/A Berkely Windhover Book, 1977, $6.95, softbound, 288 pp., appearing November 18). What is surprising is to find it can be this good. Edited by three men, author Dennis Sanders (assistant producer of "Pumping Iron"), illustrator George Stavrinos (member of Push Pin Studios) and designer Fred Myers (Senior Graphic Designer of the Museum of Modern Art), it is certainly the most stylish service book on any subject, let alone sexuality. Parts are disturbing. The editors do not always keep an objective eye on what their writers are giving us in their respective areas. "Interchangeable You," by John Gallagher, details "the" five basic looks you can pose in–obtainable for under $4,000. There are feature articles penned by well-known gay journalists in their fields–Vito Russo in film, Arthur Bell on the baths, National Gay Task Force by Bruce Voeller, and choosing therapists by C.A. Tripp. All this bound together with stunning illustrations by Stavrinos.

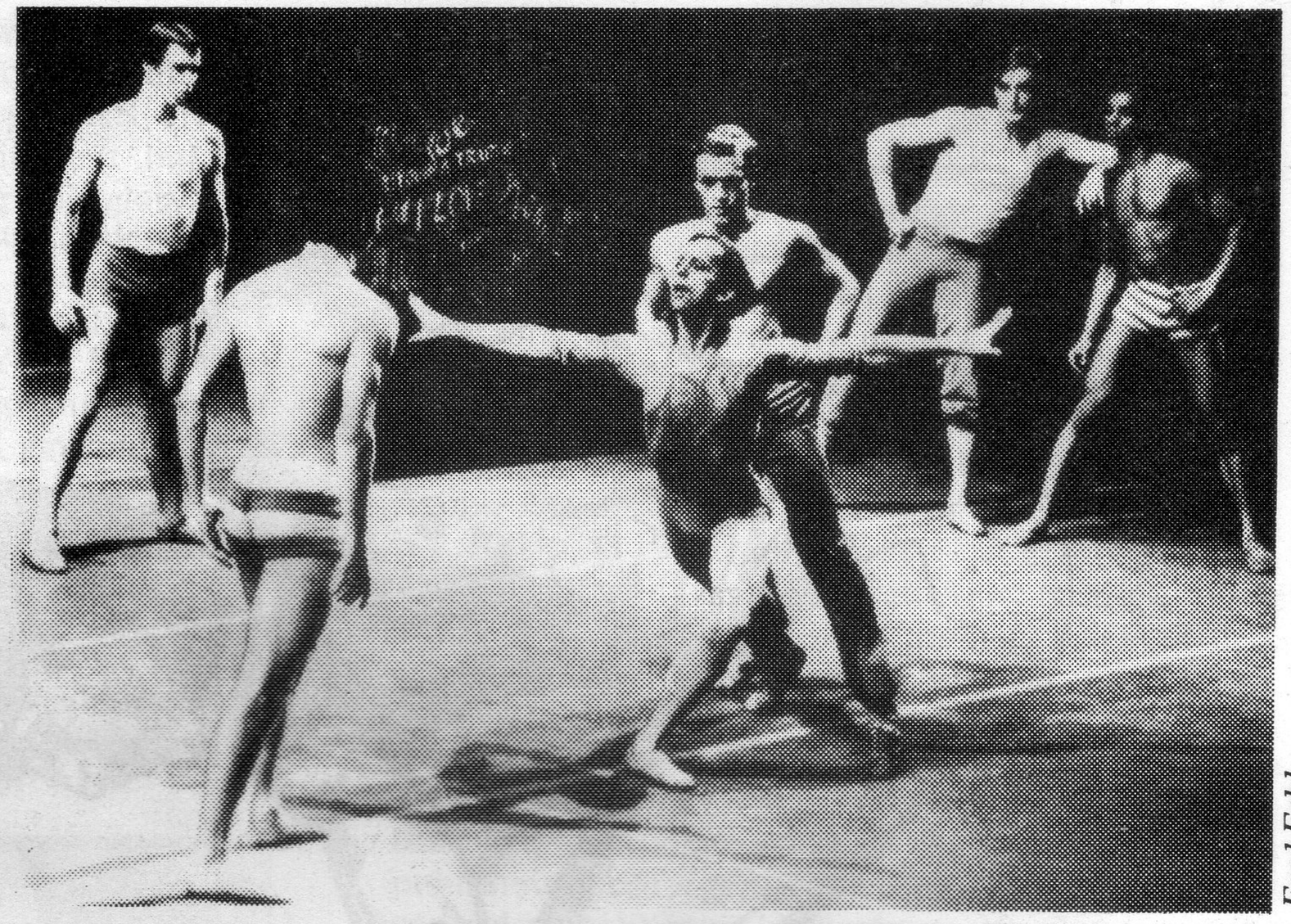
Part of me says, well. . .it was fun knowing what only gays knew and too bad now that everyone does . . .the other part says, shut up and enjoy the slickness . . .but don't be blinded by it. . .

Gay Source is definitive, clear and certainly needed. But a feature article on tatooing? Read it, dear reader, to see what can be done with and to one's body. . .not to mention one's mind. . .



Herbert Migdoll

Dermot Burke, now Ballet Master of the Milwaukee Ballet.



Fred Fehl

Sir Frederick Ashton *en traveste* in **Cinderella**

DANSEUR

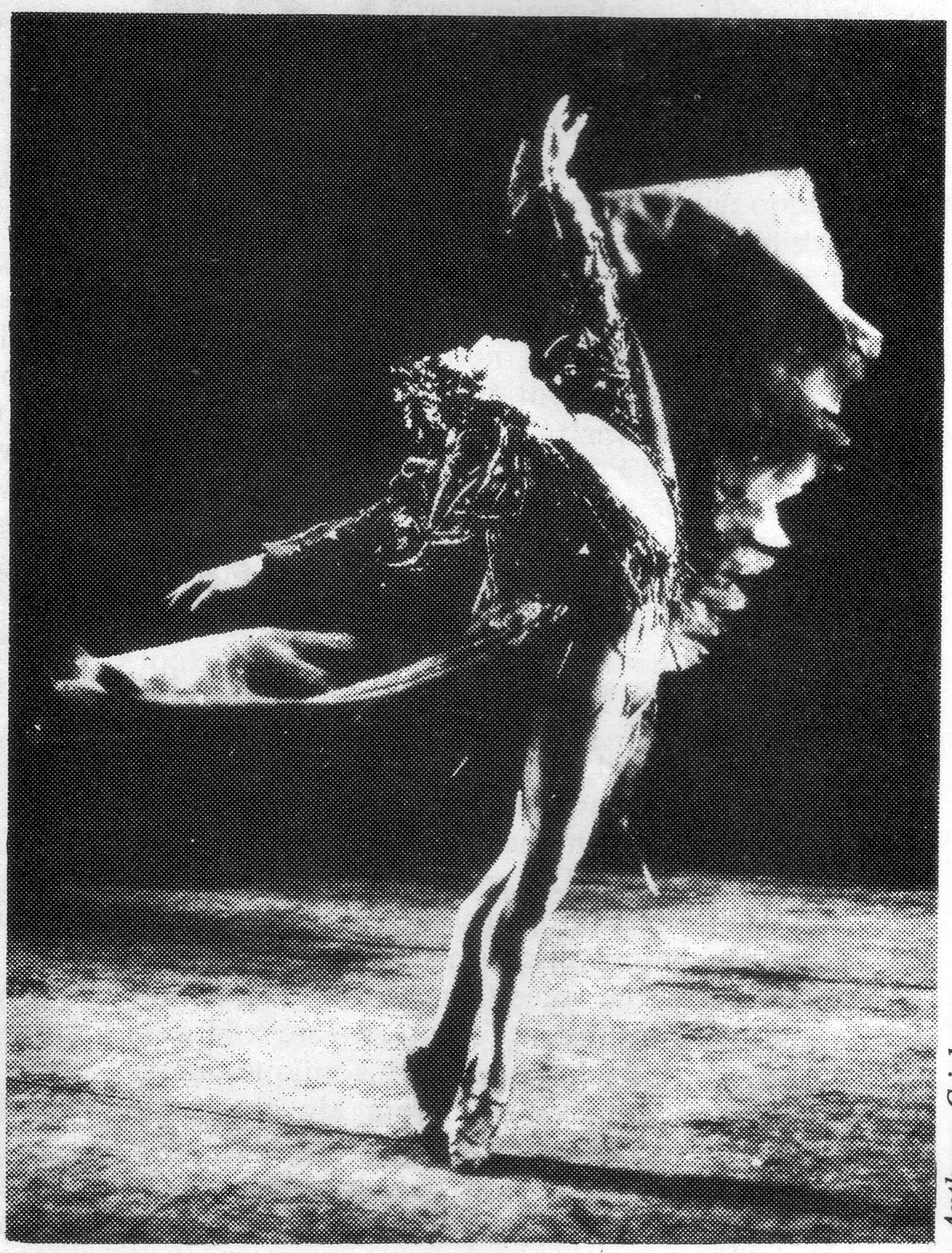


Anthony Crickway

above, **Monument for a Dead Boy**, a ballet about homosexuality by Rudi van Dantzig—Lawrence Rhodes and Dennis Wayne (in center).

right, Anthony Dowell

below, Rudolph Nureyev and Paolo Bortoluzzi in a duet created for them by Maurice Bèjart.



Anthony Crickway



Beverly Gallegos

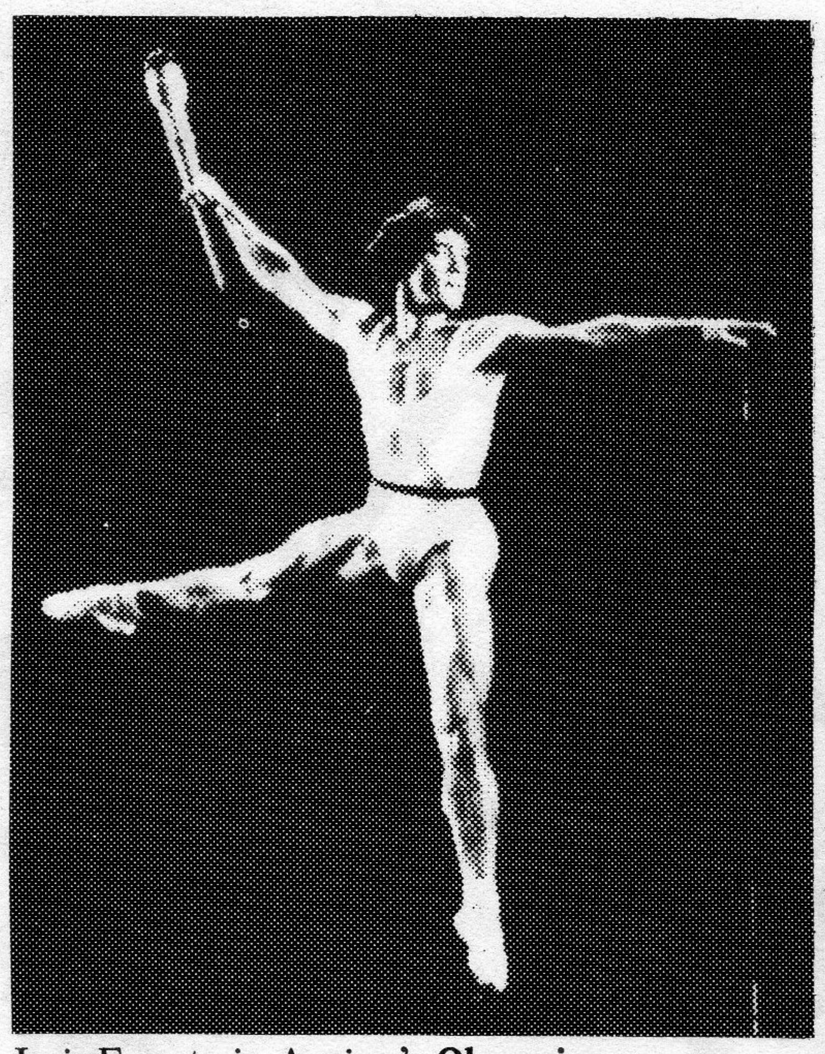
REVIEW

Danseur: The Male in Ballet by Richard Philp and Mary Whitney, a Rutledge Book published by McGraw-Hill, New York, 1977, $19.95.

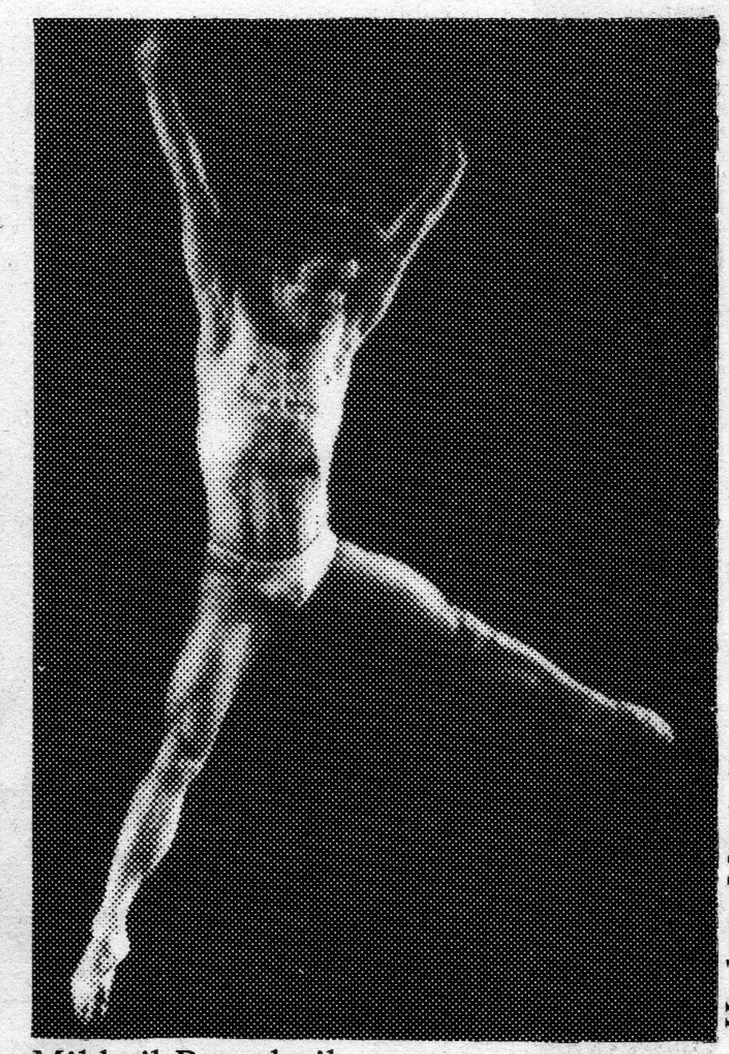
Reviewed by Alyn Hess

This book is worth the price just for the hundreds of fabulous photographs of nearly all of the best, most famous, and handsomest men on the dance stage. It is a dream for gay male balletomanes.

But it is much more than that. It is an account for everyone of the revolution that has happened in the dance world that has put the danseur again in the spotlight as a central character capable of expressing artis-



Luis Fuente in Arpino's **Olympics.**



Mikhail Baryshnikov

Herbert Migdoll

The Male in Ballet

tic ideas.

Originally, during the reign of Louis XIV of France, when dance was first called ballet, only men danced professionally on the stage. No woman of propriety would allow herself to be so stared at in public. Men danced the female roles *en traveste.*

Women eventually not only set foot on the stage, but by dancing on their toes grabbed the spotlight away from the men. Male roles were reduced to supporting ballerinas and complimenting their lines. Seldom did a man dance a role of importance with artistic merit demanding superior dancing skills. As Balanchine says even now, "Ballet is Woman."

Things changed in 1909 when Vaslav Nijinski was brought to Paris from Russia by impressario Serge Diaghilev. Together they created new dances with the danseur in a central role and showed off his wide range of expressive capabilities. Their fame encouraged choreographers to conceive new dances and to rework old ballets so as to put more equal emphasis and artistic demands on both sexes. But Diaghilev and Nijinski were lovers, and being world famous, they contributed to the impression that all male dancers were homosexual. Indeed, for a long time there were enough gay men in ballet to give the accusation a certain truth. Many men refused to take up the profession for fear of being tagged as gay.

Because of that, when the interest in dance exploded in the mid 1960s there were not enough qualified men to meet the increased demands. A few liberated and dedicated danseurs like Edward Villella and Arthur Mitchell literally went out into the streets and into high school athletic locker rooms to show their strength and skills. They proved that a dancer is also an athlete.

Today there are many men in ballet and choreographers are actually staging all male dances. The public is even getting used to accepting two men dancing together and supporting one another.

As Robert Joffrey says in his foreward to this book, ". . .movement can have tremendous sensuality that is not directed to specific sexual gender. . .movement for me is totally asexual—both men and women can do any step."



Vaslav Nijinsky in **Le Pavillion d'Armide**

New York Public Library Dance Collection

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MOTHER'S DAY by daniel curzon

Bond had decided to tell his mother he was gay. He realized that she'd possibly disown him, or at least cry. But he didn't care anymore. He was thirty-two years old and tired of lying to her. He wasn't going to spend another day making up tales about his "girlfriends" when he had none, only menfriends. No, he didn't even want to call them by **that** pious name. Most of them were tricks—mustachioed, macho types that he picked up in San Francisco bars and brought to his hotel to have sex with. The last time he'd seen his mother she'd asked why he drove up there from Fresno so often. He'd wanted to tell her the truth then, but he hadn't. He thought it might make her sicker than she was. She'd been bed-ridden with a hernia and then with shingles soon after, and he hadn't wanted to compound her suffering. Besides, she was seventy and suffering from Kyphotic curvature of the spine, like so many old ladies he saw in the hospital. One of the recent ones had actually fallen off the xray table when he'd positioned her and damaged her hunched back even more. His mother wasn't as bad as that old lady, and she was over the shingles now. Even the hernia was under control if she took care of herself. She was a pretty tough old gal, he told himself. She could take a lot. She could take the news that he was gay. And if she couldn't, well, then she couldn't. He'd stop visiting her, that's all. She **wasn't** going to throw him out of the house. He'd never permit that. Never. Besides, people thought it was funny if you visited your mother too much. He didn't give a shit if they thought he was gay, but he didn't want them to believe in that old stereotype about domineering mothers and smother-loved sons. He didn't feel smothered by her at all. For one reason, she didn't call him very often, and when she did it was mostly to kill time, not to tell him what to do. He supposed she was bored, just her and that ugly cat, now that dad was dead. Well, he certainly felt sorry for her, but he wasn't going to compromise his life another year, another day in fact. He was going to tell her, and she'd have to like it or lump it, that was all.

"You're looking good," his mother said when he went into the living room.

"So are you," he said. "Not the cat, though." He made a face at the black cat lying on the footstool in front of his mother. It was an old part-Siamese, evil-hearted and lazy. One of its ears lay flat—had lost its starch or whatever was supposed to keep it up—and the fur had lost its sheen.

"How's the hospital?" his mother asked. "Get yourself a beer out of the refrigerator, if you like."

Bond went over and stroked the cat's head, thinking that he'd give it one more chance to like him. It jumped off the footstool and went behind his mother's chair, glaring back at Bond.

"I don't want a beer, thanks," he said. "Do you?"

"I've already had three today."

"On the wagon?"

She laughed. A little laugh. "Are you going to give me another temperance lecture?"

He stared at her sitting there in the big overstuffed chair, the fronds of her tall ferns, most of them plastic, arching over her head. She looked better than he'd seen her in years. Maybe the beer was good for her. Who should care if she spent her old age completely drunk? Yes, he'd actually caught her drunk several times, waltzing around the living room with the old black cat in her arms, tipsy, sort of charming and yet disgusting too. Her face was colorless today, but the crevices under the eyes didn't look as dessicated as they had for the past several years, especially during his father's terminal illness. She was wearing lipstick—a violent red—and that was decidedly a mistake, he thought. Why did old ladies put on rouge and lipstick as if they were still trying to attract lovers? That wasn't charming, not in the least. But his mother wasn't grotesque either. Just too much red in the middle of her face. White hair and valleys under her eyes and the humpback made her look like a grandmotherly witch. His **m**other was dying, shriveling up. There was no sheen on **her** fur anymore either.

"Is the hospital all right?" she asked. The cat jumped up into her lap and snuggled right into the middle of it.

"We win a few, we lose a few. What have you been doing with yourself?"

"Well, aside from my rampant alcoholism, I've been watching 'The Edge of Night' and 'Let's Make a Deal' as if my life depended on them."

They smiled at each other, and then she licked her lips the way he'd seen senile old ladies in the hospital do when they were sitting around in the corridors in their wheelchairs, waiting for xrays.

"I came to tell you something," Bond said.

"Oh? What's that?"

He opened his mouth, but held back. The words were right there waiting to be uttered, nicely formulated and impassioned, but they stayed inside his mouth.

"What is it, Bond?"

He got up from the sofa and went over and picked up the newspaper from an end table. "It'll keep for a while."

"So mysterious! I hope it's something exciting. Have you been fired maybe?"

"Not that."

"Getting married?" She looked slyly at him, stroking the cat in her lap.

"Ma, do you mind if I say that you. . .you sometimes can be quite exasperating. So conventional in your questions!"

"Am I?" She looked hurt. "Why don't you **tell** me then—what it is—so I won't have to guess?"

Bond opened the newspaper and looked at some ads, realizing he was putting off the confrontation. "Sear's is having a January white sale."

"It always does," his mother answered, "In fact, you can count on it, as regular as Christmas."

"Are you going to buy some sheets? Do you need any money?"

"Not at the moment. Not unless you want to fly me to Miami Beach for a couple of months."

"Mother, how awful! Begging like that! I paid your way to Hawaii last year!"

"That's why I want to go again—plane fever! I had a wonderful time in Hawaii."

He smirked. "Was **more** going on there than you told me? Perhaps you met a beau, hmm?"

"No, I didn't," she said, rather coolly.

At once Bond felt sorry that he'd teased her. He was treating her like one of his xray patients, some old lady to talk down to in a teeny-weeny voice. A beau!

"Well, what is it you came over to tell me?" she said, a bit exasperated. "You're not fired and you're not engaged? You're running for President?"

"Not this year."

"What's wrong with your hair?" She pointed at his head.

"Nothing!" he said defensively, touching his hair in the back.

"It looks funny—uneven or something."

"Mother, must you!" He couldn't help smoothing the hair down self-consciously. She was right of course. His hair did look funny. He'd singed one side of his head on a candle in a trick's apartment up in San Francisco—on a candle at the foot of the bed when they were using poppers. In the midst of sex, he'd smelled his hair burning, a vile odor. Later he'd lopped off the singed part, and now his mother had noticed. He turned toward her. "Why do you feel everybody had to have hair the same way? Supposedly we live in a permissive age. At least that's the cliche. Why can't some of us have 'funny' hair if we choose?"

"I want a beer," she said, looking away. "Would you get it for me? On the bottom of the fridge."

"My pleasure!" Bond went into the kitchen and got the beer. "Do y' want a glass?" he called.

"You expect me to drink it out of the can like some truck-driver hillbilly!"

He came back in with the beer and a glass. "Shall I pour?"

"Let me." She held out her hands. Up close, he noticed that her hands had liver spots on them, prominent blue veins and liver spots as big as quarters. "Thank you, my loving son," she said, bowing a bit.

"How's your hernia?"

"Thriving. How's yours?"

"I don't have one. . .yet."

She took a swallow of the beer and sighed. "Mmm, that's wonderful."

"I never have liked beer very much myself," he said, sitting on the sofa, facing his mother.

"I didn't used to like it much either. I suppose sherry would be more classy, but I don't like it. I like beer."

"The nectar of the gods."

"Something's bothering you, isn't it? You're being disagreeable."

He looked at the little lump called his mother. She was smaller. She really was smaller than she'd been a few years ago. She was shrinking, her spine curving and making that hump. She looked slightly dirty too, as though she didn't wash as much. And he spied a cobweb on one of the ferns. He'd never seen a cobweb in the house the whole time he was growing up, and now. . .

"Mother," he began. "I have something important to talk to you about."

"Must be serious. You only call me 'Mother' when you're about to scold me."

"Do I?" He was surprised.

"Yes, you do. What d'you come to say?"

"Oh, I can't talk with that damned cat in the room!" he said, rattling the newspaper at the cat, which looked up from his mother's lap but didn't jump off.

"What d'you mean? Sally? How can Sally interfere?"

"Oh, I don't know! It just keeps aiming those little sneaky, slitty eyes at me. It's such a goddamned ugly cat, and always has been!"

"Should I block Sally's ears then?" She put her hands up over the cat's ears, and smiled at Bond to relay her joke.

"I'm quite serious about what I have to say!"

"You never were a frivolous boy, I'll give you that."

Bond glanced at his mother, a little taken aback. It hadn't crossed his mind before that perhaps his mother found him less than an ideal child to raise. "Was I a lot of bother to bring up, Mother?"

"No more than most, I suspect."

"But was I? Tell me honestly."

"Are we in for a day of honesty; is that what you're planning?"

"I'd just like to know. What was I like?"

"Quite a prig, I think."

"Me? I was a prig as a little boy?"

"A bit." She smiled to let him know that she was, partly, just teasing.

"What did I look like as a child? I mean, what's your memory of me—was I homely? Or what?"

"Of course you weren't homely! Look at you now—quite a strapping, good-looking young man!"

"No, please don't just say what's nice! How do you honestly remember me as a child—was I gawky? Were you ashamed when you compared me with other children?"

"Bond, what's the matter with you today? You were a perfectly normal little boy, no more homely than anybody else. Not very playful, and quite in command of most situations."

"Didn't I ever come crying to you for. . .for. . .?"

"Not very much."

"That's strange. My own impression is that I came crying to



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you a lot."

"You learned to cope, from a pretty early age."

"Did **that** disappoint you?"

"You never disappointed me!"

Bond threw the newspaper on the floor. "Please don't patronize me, Ma! You don't have to say nice things just because I'm your son! If I was homely and unaffectionate, tell me!"

She looked squarely into his eyes. "What good would it do to tell you that **now**?" she said quietly.

He sat back on the sofa, disturbed. "I guess you're right," he conceded. They didn't speak for a while; then he said, "I'm finding it very hard to broach the subject I came to talk about."

"Would you find it easier to make a tape recording?"

He laughed. "No, that shouldn't be necessary. I know I've got a witty, clever mother. It should be much easier than it's turning out to be. . ."

She swallowed some more beer from her glass and set the can beside the overstuffed chair. "What seems to be the difficult part?"

He looked out the picture window at a big car moving past the house. The afternoon light was as drab as dishwater suds. He looked over at the cat on his mother's lap. "Why do you keep that old cat. You've always had those old cats, as long as I can remember. Why don't you have it put to sleep anyway? It's no good. It can't–it's so damned **conventional**!"

"Conventional? What d'you mean?"

"You know what I mean. An old la–an old woman and a cat! I mean, really! How conventional!"

"I'm sorry."

"Well, it is!"

His mother went on stroking the cat's back. "Is everything bad just because it's conventional?"

"I think it probably is!" He knew he sounded smart-assy and yet he couldn't control the conversation. "Most people lead such conventional boring, ordinary lives. It's disgusting!"

The liver-spotted hand went behind the cat's ears and rubbed. "Does it have something to do with sex?"

He flushed.

"Why can't you mention it, Bond?"

He couldn't look at her. "I don't know why, really. It's not because we haven't been able to **talk**. We've already talked quite openly, as I recall. But, still, there're some things that. . . no matter how **open** the parties may think they are. . ." He threw himself back against the sofa's cushions.

"Are you in some sort of sexual trouble?"

"There you go again! You won't be happy unless I tell you I'm going to jail or something equally horrendous!"

His mother blinked at his severity.

"No, I haven't gotten some girl in 'trouble.' Quote, unquote. No, I haven't been taken in adultery with some nurse at the hospital. No I haven't decided to marry a black woman from Mozambique!"

"**You're** the one who's having the difficulty; you're the one's brought it up–"

"I know! I know! It's just that I fear your reaction. You love me and all that–I mean, we **all** know that!–but I'm afraid you'll try to get me to see a psychiatrist or the family doctor, for god's sake!"

"Am I as much an old fogey as all that?" She was looking down in to her lap now, and her untidy white hair hid her face from him.

"Not an old fogey. Excuse me, I don't mean to sound so boorish. I'm being aggressive because I feel so uncomfortable."

"So you think I'm an old crone–an old conventional crone–is that it?" She laughed palely. "Well, I suppose I am. . .these days."

"No, you're not an old crone. I'm sorry I said anything like that to you. You're not anything like that."

"Except?"

"Except what, Ma?"

"Except that you **can't** talk to me about whatever it is that's on your mind. Right?"

Bond looked at his legs; they seemed to stretch out halfway across the room. Who had invented the sofa? What a stupid piece of furniture! Nobody could sit right in it for more than a minute. It made you bend in half and sink in the cushions and. . .

"It bothers me, Bond, that you think I'm so unsophisticated. It really does."

"Well, you **read** and stuff like that. It's not **that**. You probably even know what I'm trying to say to you, if I ever get around to it."

"I probably do."

They exchanged looks, and Bond was the one to turn aside.

"Mother, I've heard you say some things that were downright radical, especially for a woman your age. But, to be perfectly honest, I've never felt that you carried your ideas into practice –just sort of conversational gimmicks."

"What gimmicks?"

"Oh, you know–women's rights and that sort of thing. I remember you once said that if you had it to do over again, you wouldn't have married dad. You would've just lived with him instead. I remember it shocked the guests at the dinnertable–that was years ago."

His mother took a sip of her beer, then another sip. "I probably haven't been completely honest with myself, or with others even about that."

"About what–living with dad?"

She gave an enigmatic grin. "Something like that."

He was intrigued. "What does **that** mean?"

"I loved somebody–somebody besides your father–once upon a time, way back in those old unliberated days."

"You did? Mother, how grand!"

She stroked the cat, and its hindquarters and tail rose against her hand. "Yes, I loved someone. . ."

"But it didn't work out?"

"No, it didn't work out."

"Why not? Why didn't you tell me before?"

"Didn't seem the opportune time."

Bond stood up. "You mean to say you loved some other man and yet never acted on your love?"

"In those days, in case you don't recall, young girls were mated early. I was a young girl."

"But how awful! You were in love with somebody else and wound up marrying father?"

"I chose domestic bliss, I think the expression is. In those days it was a woman's duty to marry, to bear children. **Duty.**"

"And you gave in?"

"Two of our children died, as you know, before you came along."

"But why didn't you rebel? Why didn't you run off with that man and say to hell with society's duty! Why didn't you?"

"I thought about it. . .quite a lot. But I chose the path of righteousness, or at least as righteousness was understood in

those days."

"You suppressed yourself?" He came over closer, scaring the cat off his mother's lap. "You took the conventional route. Mother how could you? I'm disappointed in you. Your whole life has been a lie!"

"Don't be melodramatic, my dear melodramatic child! No life is ever an entire lie. I probably **should** have done what I wanted, but I didn't, and now sex doesn't interest me in the slightest anyway. So what's the difference!"

"But while you were young–didn't sex matter than?"

"Off and on."

"But who was he? A friend? A friend of dad's?" When she didn't answer, Bond said, "Tell me about him, please! Who was he, this other man?"

His mother took the last swallow of her beer. "It was a woman, actually. Sadie was her name."

"A woman? You were in love with a **woman**?" He felt his eyes flush with the shock.

His mother looked up, still stroking the cat, only faster now. The cat was growing uncomfortable from the pressure on its haunches. "Yes, I loved Sadie, and Sadie loved me. Sadie Leonora–not a very romantic name, I suppose, but she and I were quite in love, I assure you."

"Leonora? Like my middle name–Leon?"

"Yes, I've always been fond of 'meaningful' names, Bond."

He faltered: "And–and you refused to do what you wanted? You married dad, instead?"

"It seemed the 'moral' thing to do at the time."

"And what became of the other woman–this Sadie?"

"Oh, she went to New York and became a famous **lesbian**. Quite notorious for her time."

"And you could've gone with her, couldn't you have? You could've gone to New York and been with her!"

His mother nodded. "We discussed it, but I wasn't liberated, not like people now."

"Like me?"

She smiled. "Yes, like you, Bond."

"But why weren't you braver? Why didn't you have the guts to do it if you really wanted to?"

"I don't know. I just didn't."

"I would've done it!"

"Of course times are different now."

"I would've done it then." He paused, looking down. "No, I wouldn't have, would I? I couldn't even tell you I'm gay."

They both let the announcement have its moment.

"Are you getting lots of good sex?" she asked.

He blushed. "Yes, I think I am."

"That's excellent. Do you think you might ever have children?"

"There you go again! Trying to put me in a regular pattern!"

"Bond, you're being insensitive!"

He went over and took her hand, scaring the cat away from the chair. "You should've done it, Mother, you should have! You should have run away and become a notorious **lesbian** and shocked the crap out of everybody!"

"I didn't though. I married your father." She clasped his hand.

Bond looked at his mother's unwashed face, at the sags of decaying flesh around the eyes. A thought slipped into his head and lodged there like a chip of granite. "Of course if you had, if you hadn't stayed here and married dad, I wouldn't exist now, would I?"

"Without a doubt," his mother said, touching his arm. "Without a doubt."

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HERE & THERE

New York, NY—Thomas Sweetin, who has accused his religious superiors of blocking his ordination to the Jesuit priesthood, has been dismissed from the Jesuit order. According to the provincial office, Sweetin received his letter of dismissal from the office of the New York Province of the Society of Jesus during November. Sweetin, 37, had prepared for the priesthood for 13 years; and said that, while he has homosexual tendencies, he is sexually inactive.

United Press International

Dallas, TX—A 15 year-old boy sacheyed into the Dallas County Juvenile Detention Home wearing his mother's clothing, and signed the release papers for his 13 year-old brother. The probation officer commented, "The young brother has done female impersonations in difderent settings, and sounds just like his mother."

Press Release

Pittsburgh, PA—As a result of protests by a number of Pennsylvania and New York gay rights groups, the Columbo Yogurt Company has withdrawn an ad publicizing "the unusual fruity quality" of its yogurt. Representatives of the Boston advertising agency for Columbo said that there was no intent to offend gays, and that the ad had been withdrawn.

Gay Life (Pittsburgh)

Bombay, India—A Gay Liberation Front has been formed here. It is the first such organization to be founded in India, where homosexuality is still Illegal. A spolesperson at the India High Commission in London commented that homosexuality is a "very serious offence" in some cases punishable by life imprisonment. Bombay GLF claims that many gays have been attacked and sexually assaulted by police after their arrest, and that police are also in the habit of stealing the belongings of gays following arrest and demanding bribes.

Gay News London

Ottawa, Canada—The Department of Employment and Immigration has notified gay representatives that gay people will have to wait some time before the new Immigration Act, which drops the prohibition against gays visiting or immigrating to Canada is enforced. Though the act was passed earlier this year, it will not be operative until early 1978, or possibly even later.

The Body Politic

Rapid City, SD—In September eight gay people (four men and four women) convened here in the first statewide gay conference in South Dakota. Issues included at the conference included launching of a statewide gay coalition and increased gay visibility in South Dakota. Jehovah's Witnesses had contacted the manager of the Rushmore Plaza where the meeting was held, threatening the center and the city with destruction because of the leasing to gay people. The center's director declared that he had rented it because of his belief in the separation os church and state.

Press Release

Streamwood, IL—The Fox Valley Gay Association is planning both a Christmas party and a wine and cheese party during December. A trip to Chicago is also being planned for early January. For further information phone (312) 695—3080 or write FVGA at Box 186, Streamwood, IL 60103.

Fox Tales

Manitoba, Canada—A new gay organization was formed in Brandon during September, and has more than doubled in size since its formation. Named **Gay Friends of Brandon,** the new group has initiated a hotline and taken advertisements in local newspapers. The group may be contacted by writing GFB, Box 492, Brandon, Manitoba R7A 5Z4, or by phoning (204) 725—0930.

The Body Politic

New York, NY—Jonathan Katz, author of **Gay American History,** reviewed in an earlier issue of GPU NEWS, is currently at work on a second similar volume, and is seeking the research assistance of the gay community. He seeks any sources documenting all aspects of American gay life from colonial times to the present. Of particular interest to him are well-documented instances of oppression drawn from personal experiences, diaries, letters, and unpublished manuscripts of gay persons who are not famous. Katz may be contacted in care of Raines and Raines, 475 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10017.

Gaysweek

Oklahoma City, OK—In an executive session held in October, Southern Baptist officials voted 54—2 to ban sex change operations at the Baptist Medical Center, which until now has been a center for such operations in the U.S. The board is dominated by ministers who believe that "psychological abnormalities can be remedied only by spiritual recovery." The lay advisory board and the medical staff at the Center were in favor of continuation of the surgery.

San Francisco Sentinel

Seattle, WA—King County Superior Court Judge Francis Holman has placed a 15 year-old runaway youth in the foster care of a gay man of his own choice. The decision is contrary to the wishes of the youth's parents, who wanted the boy jailed. Civil liberties and gay groups in Washington regard the decision as a landmark.

Oregon Journal

Athens, Greece—The Ministries of Public Order and Social Services have announced the preparation of a bill providing for one-year imprisonment for first-time gay offences, and deportation for those convicted a second time.

Apogevmatini (Athens)



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HERE & THERE

Salt Lake City, UT—Feminists in Action rejected a male reporter for NOW at a meeting of the International Women's Year Utah Delegation. NOW officials claim that the action was illegal because the organization, which receives state monies, must by law hold open meetings.

Press Release

Washington, D.C.—Senator Alan Cranston has refused to attend (or send a representative to) an awards dinner sponsored by David Goodstein, publisher of the **Advocate.** Cranston was one of eight persons to receive awards for "enlightening society to the humanity of gay men and women." Two other award winners—Margaret Constanza (President Carter's Public Liaison Aide) and New York Representative Edward I. Koch, also declined to attend the dinner.

Gay Community News

Rome, Italy—A recent survey of television viewers in Italy found that 57% believed that men's tight pants were obscene, 54% disapproved of topless bathing suits for women, and 63% objected to public caresses on breasts, things, and buttocks. Of the almost three thousand Italians surveyed, only 4% believed that public kissing was immoral; and 100% believed that rape was "not normal."

TV, Sorrisi E Canzoni

Atlanta, GA—The Barb, Atlanta's gay monthly, ceased publication in October. Bill Smith, Barb editor, cited financial reasons as the primary cause of the demise of the paper, which was a primary source of gay news for the South. The closing of The Barb follows within one month the closing of the **Charlotte Free Press**, another gay publication published in North Carolina and serving the South. Atlanta's massive gay community is now served only by **Cruise** (a bar guide) and **ALFA**, a lesbian-feminist newspaper.

News Release

Baton Rouge, LA—Kidnapping charges against gay activist Huey Beverly have been dismissed. Beverly had been charged in July of 1976 with kidnapping a 17-year-old hitchhiker. Charged with counts of kidnapping, aggravated assault, and battery, Beverly claimed that the charges were being used to humiliate him because of his gay activism, and that tha alledged victim had been encouraged by police to press false charges. When his attorney suggested that he plead guilty in return for a probated sentence, Huey fired the attorney and acted in his own defense at the trial.

Press Release

Richmond, VA—The Richmond Area Clergy Association has adopted a resolution supporting rights for gay persons. Their resolution, adopted during a meeting at the Presbyterian School of Education, charges that homosexuals "suffer discrimination in public and private employment, housing, and military service," and adds that "civil rights laws should be extended to protect them as citizens and to insure their human rights."

Richmond Times Dispatch

Chicago, IL—A special interest penpal club for disabled gays (blind, deaf, amputees, etc.) is now being formed and is open to all interested persons. A newsletter is also projected for the future. Interested persons should contact Duane J. Boulware, 5973 N. Clark St., Chicago, IL 60660.

Press Release

Madison, NJ—Joanna Gillespie, a sociologist at Drew University, told UPI that Americans, long dominated by the old-fashioned work-ethic, are at last finding out that sex is fun. She listed gay liberation as both a sign and partial cause of this change. "The increasing acceptance of homosexuality," she noted, "could signify a move toward acceptance of recreational sex."

United Press International

New York, NY—At its 36th general conference, the **Industrial Workers of the World (IWW)** took a stand for gay rights. The statement, issued by IWW in October, claims that the current crusade against gay rights as another attack upon all working people. IWW was one of the major forces in American labor until the early '20s.

Gay Community News

San Antonio, TX—Police here claim that about half of the hookers on their city streets are really drag queens. A recent vice squad crackdown resulted in the arrest of one hundred prostitutes, almost fifty of whom turned out to be males in female clothing. Captain Despres of the San Antonio Police said that the men would be prosecuted the same as the women, and that there would be no discrimination.

Houston Star

Chicago, IL—A gay rights resolution was passed recently by Chicago's 44th Ward General Assembly. Gary Crosby, the gay rights committee chair, also pledged the cooperation of gay people in the area in the collection of data relating to police harassment of gays. This information will be submitted by the Ward Assembly to police commanders of precincts in the area.

Gaylife

Montreal, Quebec—Dressed in battle fatigues and carrying automatic rifles, a special squad of Montreal police raided a gay leather bar in November, arresting 135 persons. All those arrested at the bar, called **Trucks**, were charged with "being found inside a bawdy house", and eight people were also charged with gross indecency. The police action was the strongest anti-gay crackdown since gay bars and baths were closed by the police during last year's Olympics. The day after the raid, almost two thousand gays marched through Montreal in protest.

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HERE & THERE

Chicago, IL–A gay library and resource file is being organized in association with the Illinois Gay Rights Task Force. The initial files will be located at 2465 North Clark Street, and will be made available only on appointment by phoning Chipp Matthews at (312) 871-3676. Donations of materials are being sought.

Gay Chicago News

Armonk, NY–IBM, one of the nation's five largest corporations, has refused to include sexual orientation in its equal opportunity policy statement. In a letter dated September 26, Affirmative Action Program Manager J.T. Childs says that the federal equal opportunity provisions were not directed to the protection of individuals on any basis other than color, religion, national origin, race, sex, age, and handicap status.

Cleveland Gay News

Leeds, England–In March a 68 year-old man pleaded guilty in Leeds Crown Court to rape. Judge Thesiger counseled, "With your state of health and high blood pressure, you ought not to indulge in conduct of this kind because you might overtax your powers and die in unfortunate circumstances." Apparently in the eyes of the British courts rape should remain a young man's sport.

. The London Times

Universal City, TX–The Texas Gay Task Force has announced plans for a gay lobbying effort in the next session of the Texas Legislature. Primary among the goals of the effort will be the repeal of Section 206 (Homosexual Conduct) of the Texas Penal Code, and the extension of equal rights on the basis of affectional preference. TGTF, which is also in the midst of a membership drive, is divided into four regional divisions, each represented on the Executive Board by a male and a female. Interested persons may contact TGTF at P.O. Box 2036, Universal City, TX 78148.

Houston Star

Cambridge, MA–Justice Warren Burger, Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, came to Harvard Law School to judge a moot court case which was argued by law students. He was the target of a teach-in sponsored by the National Lawyer's Guild on November 16. Several speakers discussed general aspects of the Burger court; and gay people were present by invitation to demonstrate, participate in teh discussions, and exhibit concern for the Court's poor record in gay rights.

Gay Community News

Denver, CO–An attempt is being made to form a network of gay-related radio and TV programs, coordinated by **Gay Electronics Media Services**, P.O. Box 18566, Denver, CO 80218. Details and lists of current sponsors are available by writing to Roar Poliac at GEMS.

Press Release

Los Angeles, CA–Police here have arrested a man for molesting a manequin in a local department store. The suspect was seen fondling a dummy, peering up the dresses of others, and then exposing himself. A police investigator, commenting on the unusual nature of the sex crime, noted, "This is the first of a series of none, I hope."

Playboy Magazine

Chicago, IL–Nude dancing and solicitation of drinks in bars has been declared legal by the Illinois Appellate Court in a ruling which overturned a Chicago ordinance. The ruling was based on a U.S. Supreme Court opinion that nude dancing is considered "artistic expression" by some. Mayor Bilandic indicated that the city would appeal the ruling, though other city officials are undecided.

Gay Chicago News



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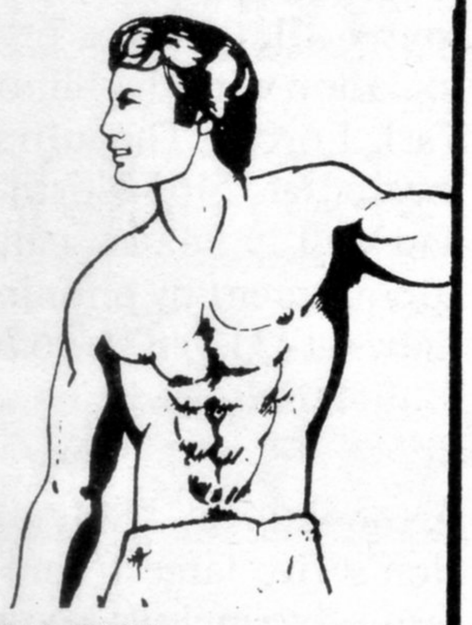
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REVIEW

Homosexual Bibliography: Supplement, 1970–1975 by William Parker The Scarecrow Press, 1977, Metuchen, NJ, 1977. $12.50

Parker's original bibliography on homosexuality covered materials written in English through 1969, and was published in 1971. It is a selective bibliography, without pretensions of completeness; but, of several such bibliographies currently available, it is also without doubt the most useful, and probably the most comprehensive as well. The new Supplement is of no less value than its predecessor.

Division of materials in the Supplement follows the exact order of the original. The thirteen divisions are: nonfiction books, pamphlets and documents, theses and dissertations, articles in books, newspaper articles, articles in popular magazines, articles in religious journals, articles in legal journals, court cases, articles in medical and scientific journals, articles in homophile publications, and literary works (including anthologies, novels, plays, short stories and poetry). There are also appendices on movies, television programs, audio visual aids, and U.S. laws applicable to consensual adult homosexuals. Finally, there are indices of both subjects and authors.

My few quibbles will not detract from the general value of the Supplement. First, with respect to homophile publications, the only sources cited are published on the west coast. The east coast, midwest and south appear to be beyond the purview of the bibliographer. There was a time when this attitude was justifiable, but, happily, that time is now past. Secondly, some cross-referencing of entries to the original bibliography would have been immensely useful. In its absence, perhaps a combined subject and author index might be published later.

Perusal of the various category entries will reveal the following promising happenstance. There is much less emphasis on gayness as sin or sickness, more on it as an at least possibly acceptable lifestyle. There is also more emphasis on gays as a minority group struggling to assert itself against society's homophobic attitudes and institutions, and less emphasis upon gays as offenders against society. Finally, there is also less emphasis on the views of the "experts", and more on the views of gays themselves.

All this, of course, is a question of emphasis rather than one of total format. The reader must still be critical and cautious in the reading, evaluating, or use of any materials cited. That is as it should be with any such general reference work. It is a pleasure to have the Supplement available as a source of reference.

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REVIEW

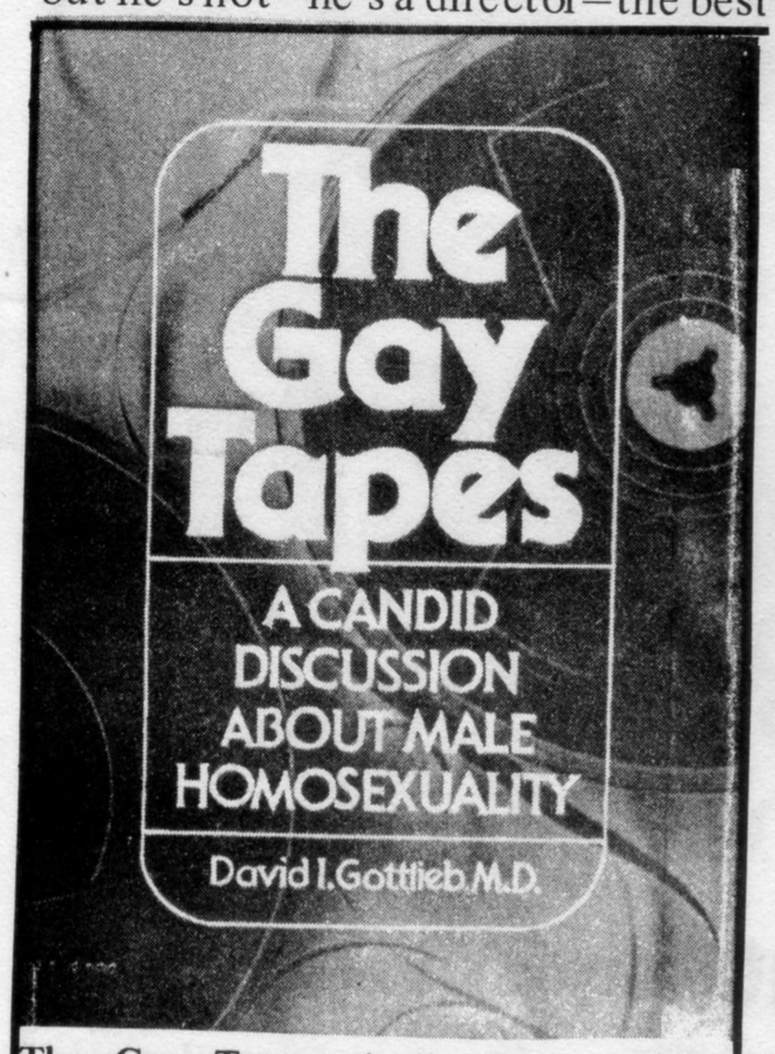
An Idol for Others by Gordon Merrick, Avon Books, New York, 1977, 437 pp., paper, $2.25.

You see, there's this over-sexed stud named Walter who meets this chick named Clara while they're both working at a summer theater. (I guess you already know those theater people carry on like minks.) Now Walter's been playing around with the boys, but of course, he's not queer or anything like that. No, sir. He just lets them suck him off or mostly he fucks them with his super big cock.

Since Walter's the best looking and best hung stud around, Clara decides she wants him and whatever Clara wants, Clara gets since she's a headstrong, rich girl who knows how to get her own way. Anyhow, she saves him from the boys (although one of them kills himself over it) and finally marries him. Now Walter's good looking enough to be an actor, but he's not—he's a director—the best one since old Will Shakespeare himself. This guy really knows how to direct. When a straight actor can't seem to master his part in one of Walter's plays, Walter simply fucks him and suddenly this second rate actor knows exactly how to do the big closing scene. So, with Clara at his side, Walter has one successful play after another. Every time he starts playing around with a boy again, Clara whips him back into line, once even seducing one of his gay lovers right in front of his nose.

Now, Walter's been a success for 25 years. He's fifty, but doesn't look a day over 28. He's rich, successful and famous. Clara has managed to keep him from turning gay. Well—he's played around with lots of guys, but he's never sucked a cock and he's never been fucked so he's really still straight. Come to think of it, he did suck a couple of cocks in a weak moment or two, but he's never, thank heavens, been fucked so he's still not gay. He did fuck his own illegitimate son a few years ago, but that only lasted three months and he only did it because the kid was so nelly. Walter just had to do his fatherly duty and butch him up a bit. What the hell, you can't have your own son running around calling himself Geraldine.

No, this isn't the plot line for a soap opera. It's Gordon (**The Lord Won't Mind**) Merrick's dreadful new potboiler of a novel. I must warn those who have diabetes that this book could be dangerous to your health. Overexposure to so much sugar could lead to a coma. As a matter of fact, I've broken out in pimples from so many adjectives like "darling", "honey" and "dearest." I guess I shouldn't complain. I'm 47, but with the new pimples I don't look a day over 19.



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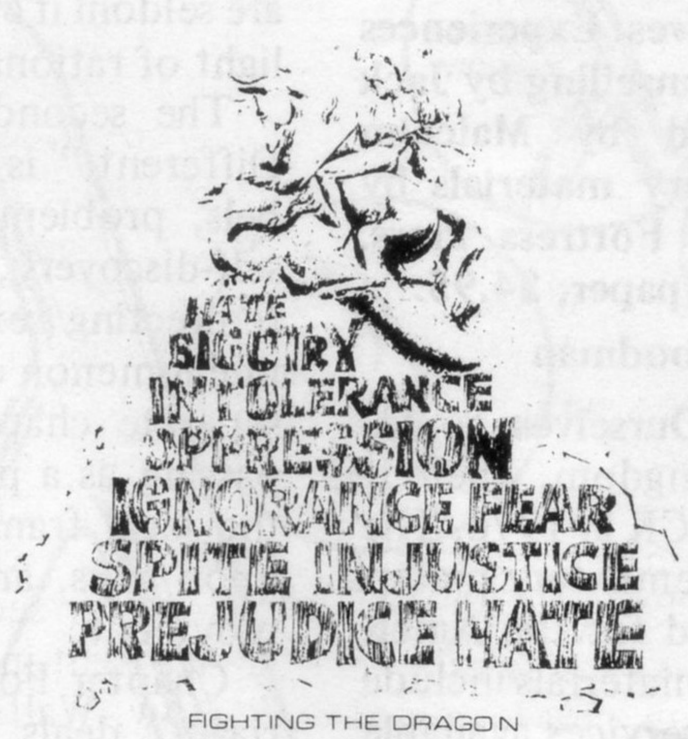
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Cover Design: Robert Uyvari

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REVIEW

We Speak for Ourselves: Experiences in Homosexual Counselling by Jack Babuscio, foreward by Malcolm Boyd, supplementary materials by Barbara Gittings. Fortress Press, Philadelphia, 1977, paper, $4.95.

Reviewed by Lee Goodman

We Speak for Ourselves comes from the United Kingdom, where it was published by SPCK in 1976. The foreward and supplementary materials have been added for the American edition. These materials include a list of counseling services available in a dozen or so major cities and an annotated list of books

Babuscio warns counselors to "know", as best they can, what it is like to be 'different', to bear a stigma in a frequently hostile world." Such problems as exist for gays, he declares, ". . .spring from negative societal reaction to homosexuality rather than from anything inherent in the homosexual orientation itself." This is, of course, a broad and somewhat dogmatizing statement. This is not to deny the availability of evidence in support of it, but only to alert the reader that such evidence is not presented in the pages which follow. Babuscio's work is directed to the counselor, and deals with its several points on a case by case basis; and the suggestions which are addressed to the counselor via these cases are in fact more programmatic than the author's often cut-and-dried enunciation of them would lead one to believe.

The first chapter, entitled simply "What Are the Problems," deals with the problem of identity, the phenomena of stigmatisation, and the distancing of gays from the larger culture of the society in which they live. The sociologist would refer to these as problems of acculturation. It is upon the consciousness of the individual gay person that the stigma of the unnatural, the sick, the sinful, and the illegal falls most heavily. Babuscio intimates, correctly I think, that it is not enough to unmask these as irrational; for we are more in the domain of emotive reactions, which are seldom if ever moved by the cool light of rational critique.

The second chapter, "On Being Different," is devoted to sexual labels, problems of gender identity, self-discovery, and the question of redirecting sexual preferences. The phenomenon of "passing" receives a separate chapter, with sections on passing as a product of oppression, the legal framework as it impinges upon gays, and the context of employment.

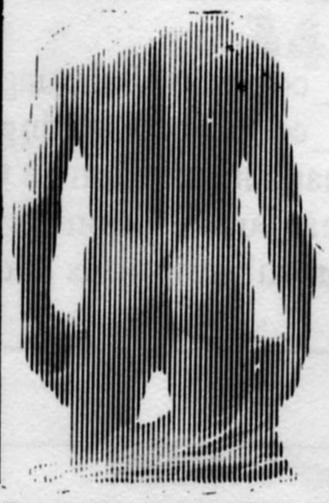
Chapter Four, "The Halo of Marriage," deals with the problem of the heterosexually married gay person. Marriage, as one interviewee notes, confers a halo of respectability for the closeted gay—and, of course, the prospect of torment for the gay and his/her spouse. Reactions of the heterosexual spouse are also briefly treated, as well as the problem of how courts have dealt with gay fathers or gay mothers. The following chapter, "Gay Sex, Straight Religion," offers five cases of sex versus faith. Babuscio sees "hope for the future" in the changing attitudes of some religious sects toward gay lifestyles and values. A somewhat incomplete picture at best, since still another "hope for the future" for many gays (the present reviewer included) would be that religion might simply disappear into that slum of superstition and ignorance whence it arose. One might even hope, in such an eventuality, that it would leave narry a trace of the many scars which it has inflicted upon human history.

The penultimate chapter, entitled "Family and Friends," deals with coming out: how to tell your parents, what to do and say as a parent, how to come out at work, etc. I quote the key ingredients in the recipes: "It all depends on how you feel", "try to prepare them first", "choose the time carefully", "don't force the issue", and "expect the worst."

It is in the final chapter, on the gay scene, that the British origins of the volume tend to become more obvious. When Ernie says that "the pub is a place to meet (i.e., make new) friends," he is uttering a wonderful truth about that greatest of all British institutions; but, as a putative truth about the American gay bar, it not only limps in translation, but it collapses. "The world of the club," Ursula tells us, "is hidebound by etiquette." Good enough, but (like the pub) the British gay club has no real counterpart for the American gay. Paradoxically, the only two social institutions which overlap the British and American gay scenes—cruising and the baths—are conspicuous by their very absence in this chapter.

The closing section of the final chapter is entitled "Creative Alternatives," and is devoted to gay couplehood. Again I find the position of this section, and its interlinear suggestiveness, somewhat offensive. Don't get me wrong—I'm all for the gay couple, but anyone who seeks such a coupling as a replacement and alternative for everything else in the gay life is simply asking for trouble. The most satisfying and enduring gay couplings which I have been honored to know have been precisely those where the partners have taken a realistic view of their mutual expectations and their relation to the gay community in

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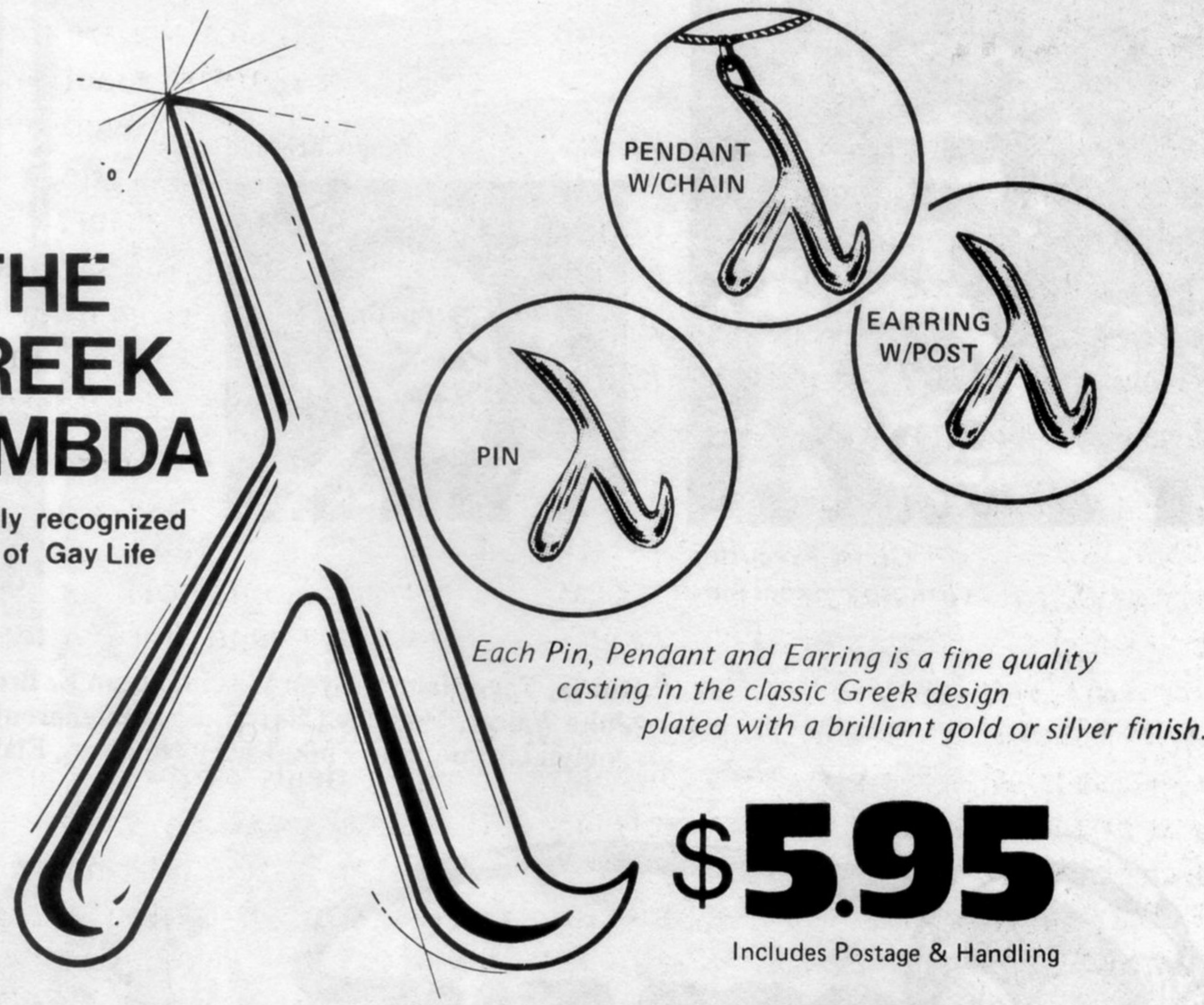
GPU PHONE

271-5273

which they live and move.

This is a good book provided one doesn't take it for what its author claims it to be. It does not, in my opinion, offer much useful advice substantively to counselors, and even less does it offer real guidance to gay persons in the need of suggestive help. For the counselor not familiar with the range and magnitude of problems which gay persons may have, it offers a good panoramic view of what to expect in counseling gays. That is all for the good, since I suspect that many counselors have difficulties, not for want of sympathy and commitment to the troubled gay, but rather because of an overall lack of familiarity with the context in which the gay person operates. Some writers have offered that point as an argument to the effect that only gay counselors should counsel gays, but that seems to be at best an overreaction. What the counselor must do is avoid piecemeal contexts and fragmentary solutions, not to mention pat answers and recipes. "Getting it all together" in this way may be a bit more difficult for the nongay counselor, but hard work is good for all of us; and gays are no more capable of doing it than nongays.

So we do not have here a book on counseling, but rather a book which prepares one to look carefully for problems and possible solutions within a counseling (or any interpersonal) context. The material consists for the most part of edited transcripts of tape-recorded interviews and letters, each of which has been fully edited to protect anonymity. You won't find the "typical gay" here; but, since there is no such thing, that should come as no surprise. You will catch a multitude of glimpses at real people tackling real problems in an environment which is both sex-negative and hostile. Perhaps ultimately there are no solutions for the counselor to propose or seek, since the real problems are in the society and not in the gay person. Pending the ultimate remedy of social change, as Babuscio notes, survival is the major goal.



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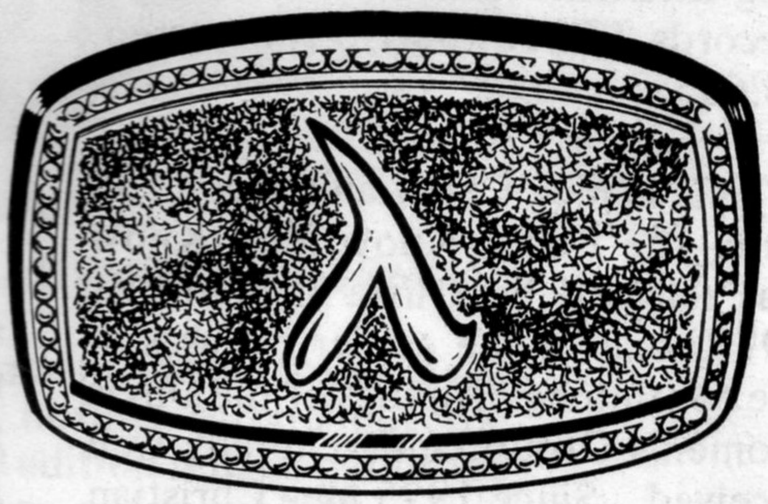
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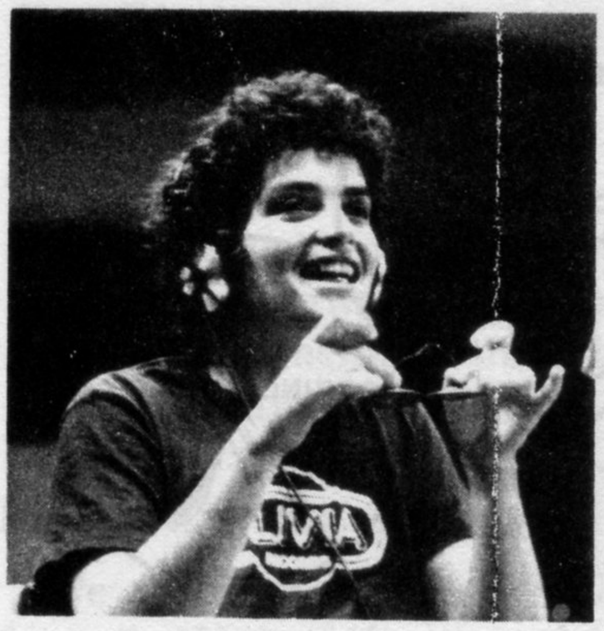
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Ginny executing virtuoso cymbal part

Meg Christian



ES



KNW

Silvia, Faye Haines, Lynn Wilson, Susan E. Brown
Julie Walcer, Michelle Clinton, Elisa Buenaventura-Posso
Joelyn Grippo, Sue Fink, Kathy Newman, Elaine Miller

Lesbian Concentrate: A Lesbianthology of Songs and Poems. Various artists. Olivia Records, LF915. 33 1/3 rpm. $6.60.

This disc is both a sampler of Olivia's past releases, and a titillating taste of things to come. Artists include Linda Tillery, Meg Christian, Teresa Trull, Chris Williamson, Judy Grahn, Sue Fink, Gwen Avery, Virginia Rubino, Mary Watkins, Pat Parker, and the Berkeley Women's Music Collective. Of these nearly half already have offerings on or through the Olivia label; and the Olivia prospective, included with the record, indicates that others have releases forthcoming as well.

Songs include "Don't Pray for Me", "Prove it on Me", "Sweet Woman", "Gay and Proud", "Leaping Lesbians", "Sugar Mama", "Kahlua Mama", "No Hiding Place", "Ode to Gym Tecaher", and Woman-Loving Women". Poems are "History of Lesbianism" and "For Straight Folks." Several of these are repeats from other Olivia releases. "Leaping Lesbians" is a new arrangement by Meg Christian but not the same as the version offered on **Face the Music.**

A portion of the receipts for sales of this recording goes to the Lesbian Mothers Defense Fund, whose good works have been noted in earlier issues of GPU NEWS. Persons interested in the fund may write to LMDF at 2446 Lorentz Place North, Seattle, WA 98109.



Meg Christian: Face the Music. Olivia Records, LF913. 33 1/3 rpm stereo. $6.60.

This is Meg Christian's second album—the first **I Know You Know** was released by Olivia in March of 1975, one of the earlier releases in the continuing offerings of the Olivia Women's Group, and generally well received. Since 1975 Meg Christian has done two national tours, a healthy amount of local performances, and a good deal of composing; and this new release bears the marks of reflection and maturity.

The title song features Meg with classical guitar and the lead vocal. Though introspective, it is optimistic and almost merry and dance-like at points. "Change" signifies a cooling process with its reined rythms and the pensive sobriety of its message: it is half-soothing and half-chiding. Other cuts on side A are "Nipper" (a tribute to the bond of woman to cat), "Mountain Song", "Sweet Darlin' Woman", and "The Road I Took to You."



LJ

Teresa Trull

Side B opens with "Rosalind", an autobiographical documentary on racism and homophobia, moves to "Rainbow" with its simply beautiful and haunting melodic line, and concludes with "The Rock Will Wear Away", an arrangement of the ever-popular "Leaping Lesbians", and "Where Do We Go From Here."

The production is smoother than in Meg's first record. Here, as there, she is at her best with simple melodies, direct messages, and staple accompaniments. When homiletics replace text, or accompaniments tend to overshadow melodic line, the musical waters become muddier.

There was a little surface noise on side B. Miking is awfully good. The result is a record worth the attention of anyone interested in women's music, and an absolute must for Meg Christian fans.

REVIEW

The Gay Engagement Calendar 1978
Compiled by Martin Gref, Stein & Day, New York, 1977, $4.95.

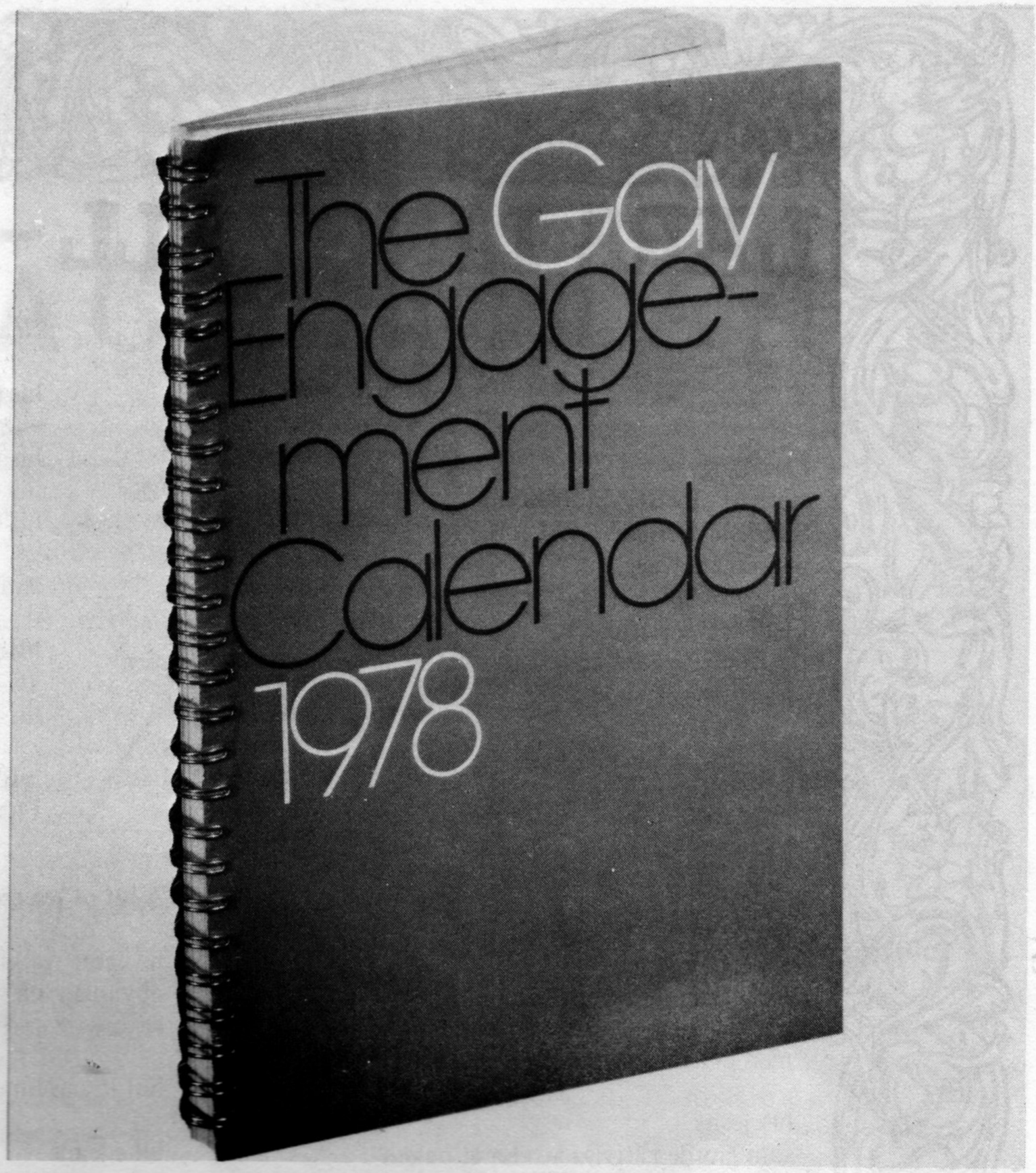
The 1978 eiditon of the **Gay Engagement Calendar** imitates the many successful virtues of its 1977 predecessor. Board covers (in orange for 1978) with spindle binding permit it to lie flat either fully opened or with only a single page exposed at a time. The paper once again is high quality stock–sufficiently durable to stand the ravages of a full year of constant use.

The illustrations, 56 in all, are new and range all the way from ancient Rome (The Emperors Domitian and Caracalla) to the contemporary scene. Some noteworthy new entries are Sir Francis Bacon, James Buchanan, Henry Thoreau, Cole Porter, Benjamin Britten, Emperor Montezuma II, and Cecil Rhodes (of Rhodes Scholarship fame.)

Other amenities of the Calendar include full single-page calendars for 1978 and 1979, additional blank pages for notes and addresses, and an alphabetical index at the end of all persons mentioned or commemorated throughout the calendar year.

For the decloseted professional with a need for an appointment book, the **Gay Engagement Calendar** is an ideal desk accessory–a bit more tasteful than a button or a teeshirt, and eminently more practical. For others it could be an ideal telephone accessory for recording messages and important dates. It also makes a thoughtful holiday gift.

Local bookstores in larger urban areas sold the Calendar last year, and will probably do so this year also. So buy it at your local bookstore if you can, since this is one way to make your bookseller aware of the gay market which needs to be served. For those not able to purchase it locally, GPU NEWS again offers it via mail order. Last year's issue was a sellout for us, so orders for the new Calendar will be filled on a first come-first served basis.



THE 1978 GAY ENGAGEMENT CALENDAR

The 1977 Gay Engagement Calendar was a sell out and received rave notices throughout the country. Now, the 1978 edition is to be published in late October. Advance orders may be placed by using the coupon below.

$4.95 postpaid per calendar.

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Hans n'ästan

hans n'ästan

hans antydan till mustasch
hans aningen av ett skäägg
hans ögonbryn knappt synliga

och det som syntes

hans mjukt rufsiga hår
hans fylliga mun
hans sköna leende

men jag tyckte n'ästan bäst
om hans n'ästan

Nearly

his nearly

his trace of a moustache
his touch of a beard
his eyebrows hardly to be seen

and that which could be seen

his gently ruffled hair
his lips full
his lovely smile

but nearly best
I liked his nearly

Litet glass

han kom och gick på gatan
säkert på semester
i sällskap med barn och blomma

men det var honom jag såg

blå jeans
som gjorde r'ättvisa åttvisa åt baken
och veckade till sig på väg ner i stövlarna
regnställ i orange
med kapuschong

men det var ju egentligen
honom jag såg

han hade en glass i sin hand
en glass som han åt
och som kom n'ära hans skäägg
där litet grand glass
dröjde sig kvar

ja
det var honom jag säg
och hans skäägg
och hans glass
och jag hade gärna sj'älv
velat vara litet glass
just då

A bit of ice cream

he came walking up the street
obviously on vacation
with wife and kids

but it was him that I saw

blue jeans
doing justice to his rear end
bunched up at the top of the rain boots
mackintosh in orange
with hood

although it was him
that I saw

he had an ice cream cone in his hand
ice cream that he ate
and that came near to his beard
where some of it lingered and stayed

oh yes
it was him that I saw
and his beard
and his ice cream
and I would have love to have been
a bit of ice cream
right then

CALENDAR

Any person, group or business who wishes to have a free announcement of an upcoming event should send copy before the 25th of any month for the next issue.

HAVE A GAY HOLIDAY!

Photo by Joel

DEC 1 Little Jim's Movie Nite (Chicago), 9 pm, "Barkeleys of Broadway", (Fred Astaire, Ginger Rogers, Oscar Levant.)

DEC 2 Sistercelebration (Indianapolis) on "The Advent of Women", 7 pm, The Woman's Touch, 6342 West 37th Street.

Pride of Lambda (Cedar Rapids) membership meeting, 8 pm, People's Church.

DEC 3 Rainbow Grille (Milwaukee) Christmas Party, International Buffet.

DEC 4 Gold Coast Movie Nite (Chicago), 5 & 10 pm, "You Only Live Twice" (James Bond).

DEC 5 Gay People's Union (Milwaukee) meeting, 8 pm, The Farwell Center, 1568 N. Farwell.

Happy Hanukkah.

DEC 6 Side Track Lounge (Cedar Rapids), Movie Nite, 10 pm.

DEC 7 Man's Country (Chicago) Movie Nite, film to be announced.

DEC 8 Purdue Gay Alliance (Indiana) membership meeting, 7:30 pm, Rm 313, Stewart Center, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IND.

DEC 10 Gay People's Union (Iowa City) Dance Festival, "Wanna Get Lucky", 10 pm, Unitarian Church of Iowa City, $2 donation.

DEC 11 Gold Coast Movie Nite (Chicago), 5 & 10 pm, "Funny Girl".

DEC 12 Gay People's Union (Milwaukee) meeting, 8 pm, The Farwell Center, 1568 N. Farwell, Speaker Jane Bartel (Milwaukee Blood Center.)

DEC 14 Man's Country Movie Nite (Chicago), film to be announced.

DEC 15 Little Jim's Movie Nite (Chicago), 9 pm, "Indian Love Call".

DEC 18 GPU (Indiana) Christmas Caroling, co-sponsored by The Woman's Touch; an evening of caroling at Indianapolis nursing homes, 6-8 pm; for information write GPU, Box 1881, Indianapolis, IN 46206.

Packers Sunday, Rainbow Grille (Milwaukee), Sunday Brunch, bus trip to & from Stadium, & ticket to the game (lower grandstand), $17.50; phone 647-9114 for further info.

Gold Coast Movie Nite (Chicago), 5 & 10 pm, "Deliverance".

DEC 19 Gay People's Union (milwaukee) meeting, 8 pm, The Farwell Center, 1568 N. Farwell, Speaker Dr. Norton Zaren, "What a Psychiatrist Wants to Tell Gay People."

DEC 21 Man's Country Movie Nite (Chicago), film to be announced.

DEC 22 Little Jim's Movie Nite (Chicago), 9 pm, "Going Hollywood", (Bing Crosby, Marion Davis)

DEC 23 Sugar Shack (Milwaukee) Christmas Party, free buffet.

DEC 24 Christmas Eve Party, Ball Game (Milwaukee).

DEC 25 Merry Christmas.

DEC 26 Gay People's Union (Milwaukee) meeting, 8 pm, The Farwell Center, 1568 N. Farwell.

DEC 28 Man's Country Movie Nite (Chicago), film to be announced.

DEC 29 Little Jim's Movie Nite (Chicago), 9 pm, "Miracle on 34th Street."

DEC 31 New Years Eve bar parties. Many Milwaukee bars open all night.

JAN 2 Gay People's Union (Milwaukee), meeting, The Farwell Center, 1568 N. Farwell, Election of officers.

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Forker Motorcycle Club
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Free Space
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Gay People's Union, Inc.
Meetings every Monday at the Farwell Center, 1568 N. Farwell. Meetings start at 8:00 pm. Business meetings the first Monday of each month. The Farwell Center now open every night from 7:30 to 11:00. Call 271-5273 or write P. O. Box 92203, Milwaukee, WI 53202

GPU VD Clinic
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Lutherans Concerned for Gays—Milwaukee
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The Metropolitan Community Church
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Silver Star Motorcycle Club
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Milwaukee Health Department Social Hygiene Clinic
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Phone: 278-3631
Clinic hours: Monday & Thursday from 11:30 AM to 7:15 PM; Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 8:30 AM to 11:15 AM and 12:45 PM to 4:00 PM.

UWM Gay Community
Meetings Wednesdays at 7:30 PM in the Union (check daily event sheet for room) Write c/o Student Union, UWM Milwaukee, Wi 53211. Call 963-7359.

WISCONSIN

Fox Valley Gay Alliance
Serving Appleton—Oshkosh area. Meets twice monthly For information write: P.O. Box 332, Menasha, Wi 54952 or call 414—731—5576.

Gay Students Association/Oshkosh
Univ. of Wis., Oshkosh, Box 51, Dempsey Hall, Oshkosh, Wi 54901. Meetings twice monthly, info and counseling available. Write or call 414—426-0832.

Lesbian Switchboard
306 N. Brooks (UYMCA)
Madison, Wi 53715
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Madison Committee For Gay Rights
PO Box 324 Madison WI 53701
Phone (608) 251-2937

Madison Gay Center
1001 University Avenue
Madison, Wi. 53715

Renaissance of Madison Inc.
913 Spring Street
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IOWA

Pride Of Lambda
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CHICAGO

Dignity/Chicago
Catholic Mass, Sundays 7PM, 824 West Wellington, Phone 525-3564 or write Box 11261, Chicago, Ill 60611.

Fox Valley Gay Association
Serving Chicago and Suburbs. Gay hotline (312 695-3080), counseling, monthly newsletter, weekly meetings and rap sessions. Phone hotline or write: FVGA, Box 186, Streamwood, IL 60103.

Gay News and Events Line
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Gender Services
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Mattachine Midwest
Box 924, Chicago, Il 60690 337-2424

Maturity.
For those over 40. Germania Club. 108 W Germania Pl. 3rd Fridays. 372-8616 (days) for information.

One Of Chicago
615 W. Wellington. 1st Fridays. Call 372-8616 for information.

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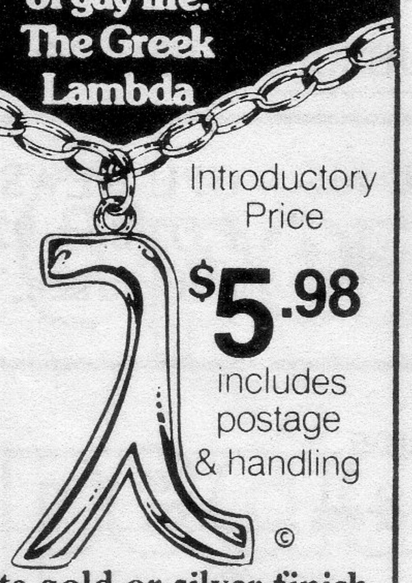
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Gay Needs. Astrology–future tendencies, analysis, $15. Compatability analysis, $10. Send questions, birth date, time, place. Confidential. James Hollabaugh, 3272 Industry Road, Rootstown, Ohio 44272.

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JOIN IN THE FUN
with our GALA
CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S
ACTIVITIES

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Tuesday	9:00 -	1:00 P.M.
Thursday	9:00 -	1.00 P.M.
Sunday	7:30 -	11:00 P.M.

FABULOUS SIDEBOARD RESTAURANT
Serving Dinners and Sandwiches 'til 11 P.M.
SUNDAY BRUNCH 1 - 5:00 P.M.

Wynee at the piano
Organ music by Gary
Vocals by Gerry Perry

DANCING



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124 N. WATER STREET

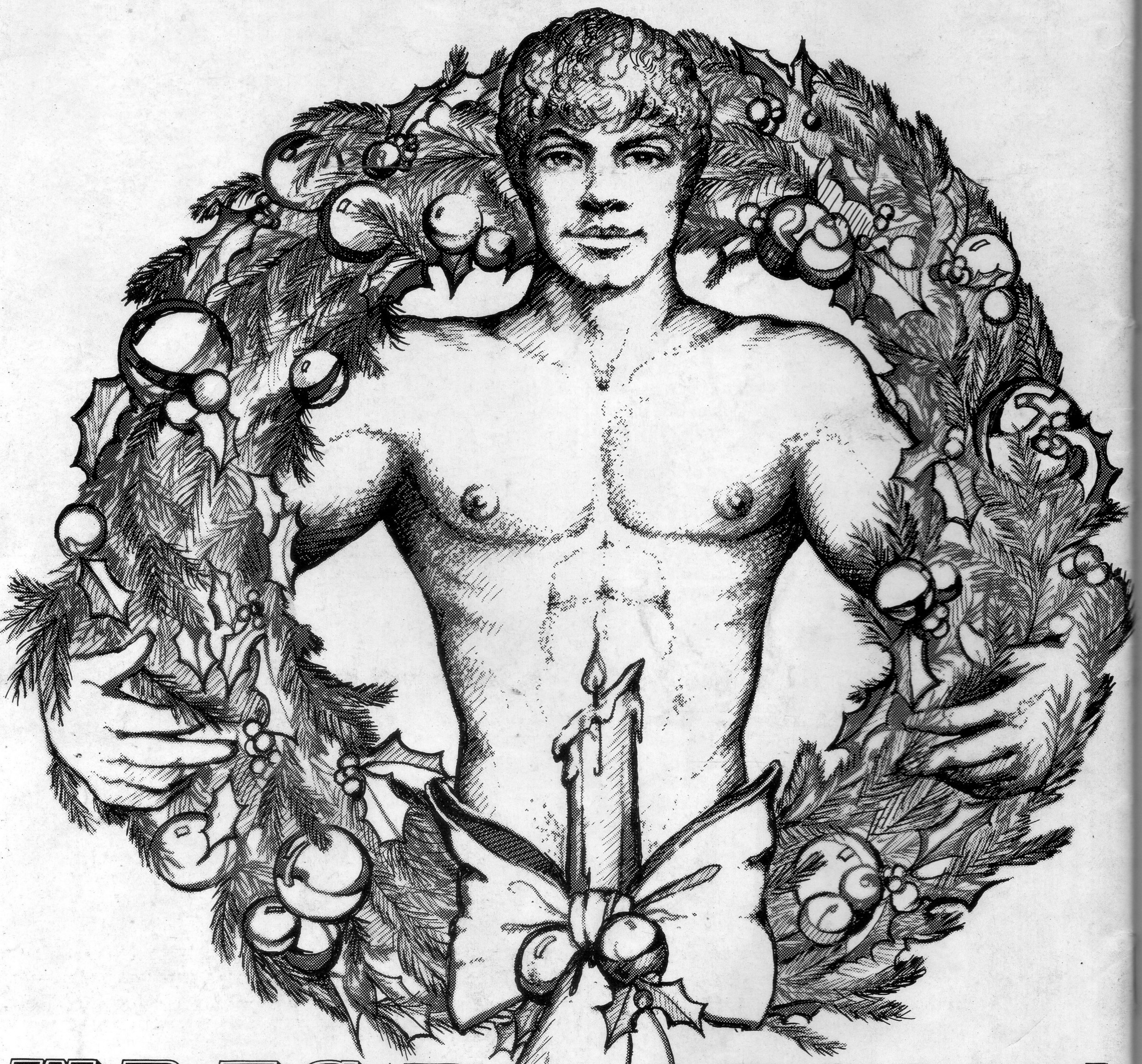
HOURS

Monday - Friday	*2 P.M. - 2 A.M.*
Saturday & Sunday	*1 P.M. - Closing*

(On the corner of Water and Erie)
Phone 347 - 9662

DOUBLE BUBBLE
Monday - Friday 5 - 7:00 P.M.
Tuesday - BEER NIGHT

Season Greetings



WRECK ROOM!

CHRISTMAS PARTY
Sunday, December 11
3–7 pm Free Tap Beer

NEW YEARS PARTY
Join us for our
Traditional Buffet

HOME OF THE SILVER STAR † 266 EAST ERIE STREET † MILWAUKEE, † PHONE 278 – 9332